FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

22 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq was "forced" to "withdraw" from "hundreds" of square km of territory in the Faqqeh operational sector captured by Iran during a "violent" clash late 21 May, according to Tehran radio's Arabic service citing a military report, which also claimed that Iraq sustained over 1,500 casualties in the fighting. A later radio report citing a military announcement asserted that Iran launched an attack early 22 May on Iraqi positions inside Iraq at the "other end" of the Faqqeh region, and liberated "scores" of square km of Iraqi territory in that area. A Tehran radio report said Iran is in full control of the strategic axes in that region and surrounding areas, according to another military report. For Iraq's part, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio asserted that Iraq thwarted an Iranian counterattack in that area during which Iran sustained a "large number" of casualties and lost three tanks.

Further north, in the Hajj 'Umran area, a military statement cited by IRNA claimed that Iran is in "full control" there, and reported the downing of two more Iraqi helicopters. On the other hand, the Iraqi communique contended that an Iranian counterattack in that area was repulsed and that the Iranians suffered "massive" losses.

In continuing fighting in the Mehran area, a 22 May Tehran radio report claimed that 300 Iraqis were killed or wounded when Iran opened "heavy" fire on Iraqi positions there which, it asserted, brings the number of Iraqi casualties in 5 days of fighting in that area to 2,300. The radio alleged that two Iranian offensives into the "heart" of Iraqi positions late 20 May and early 21 May resulted in the destruction of 15 Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers and heavy Iraqi casualties. The radio added that three subsequent Iraqi counterattacks early 21 May were repulsed during which the Iraqis "retreated" and lost eight tanks, two of which were captured. The radio and IRNA reported Iranian air raids on Iraqi positions in that sector 21-22 May. In contrast, the Iraqi communique contended that at least 520 Iranians were killed in fighting there and claimed that an Iranian F-4 plane was downed as it attempted to bomb Iraqi positions, an allegation denied by an Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA who asserted that no Iranian planes were lost over the Mehran area.

Israel-Egypt

Jerusalem radio noted Egypt's "inflexible and uncompromising" position at the Tabah talks, while a later radio report announced Egypt's rejection of the compromise proposals put forward by the United States. Cairo radio reported that the Egyptian delegation was expected to depart for Cairo 22 May.

Egypt-Jordan

In his recent talks with Jordan's King Husayn, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak proposed a plan for "Egyptian-backed Palestinian self-rule" in the Gaza Strip, according to "informed sources" cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST*. "Well-informed sources" asserted that the idea "angered" Husayn, while "other sources" cited by the paper speculated that the plan was "initiated" by "key" PLO officials as a means of pressuring Jordan in light of that country's recent "harassment" of PLO activists in Jordan and the West Bank.

Lebanon

Twenty-eight persons were killed and 101 were injured in "indiscriminate" shelling in the Beirut area, according to Beirut radio reports. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Hizballah centers in the Al-Biqa' were subjected to "intensive" Syrian shelling.

In other fighting, Beirut radio announced that "violent" clashes erupted during Israeli attacks on two villages in southern Lebanon. An Amal Movement statement on the fighting cited in a subsequent radio report claimed Israel suffered 10 casualties while Lebanese "resistance groups" sustained a "number" of dead and wounded. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that an IDF soldier was wounded and two terrorists were killed in a clash north of the security zone.

Syria

Israeli Energy and Infrastructure Minister Moshe Shahal disclosed that Syria is building a nuclear power plant similar to the one at Chernobyl, according to Jerusalem radio.

Saudi Arabia

The Jeddah paper *'UKAZ* cited by Riyadh radio explained the reasons behind Saudi Arabia's decision to rescind its request to acquire U.S. Stinger missiles, including the Kingdom's desire not to "burden" any party, such as the "friendly" United States, with a project that may bring about a "gain" for other parties who employ all means to "exploit circumstances" for their own good, which the paper asserted is the method used by the "Zionist lobby" inside that country.

PLO

"Informed Palestinian sources" cited by the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD reported by QNA asserted that the Palestinian* "National Unity Conference" planned to be held in Algiers in late May has been postponed. The sources attributed the postponement to the PFLP's failure to inform Algeria of that group's agreement to attend the talks, but nevertheless speculated that the meeting would be held in July.

Iran-France

French President Francois Mitterrand was given a message from his Iranian counterpart by Iranian Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri during a meeting in Paris, IRNA reported. Although the talk noted the existing differences between the two countries, the agency disclosed Mitterrand's desire for an improvement in bilateral relations.

Iraq-USSR

Soviet official Konstantin Katushev departed for Moscow following talks with Iraqi officials and the signing of four agreements and a protocol, Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio reported.

Qatar-Bahrain

AL-ITTIHAD carried a report 22 May cited by WAKH in which "informed Gulf sources" asserted that the Qatari-Bahraini dispute over Fasht al-Dibal Island has entered its "final stages" and divulged that Gulf "observers" are to arrive in the two countries within the next 2 days to "supervise" the resolution of the dispute. According to a report in the same paper 21 May and cited by Abu Dhabi radio, an "informed Gulf source" revealed that the "first clause" of the agreement reached to resolve the dispute was to be implemented that same day.

DRA-Pakistan

The DRA severely condemned "baseless" Pakistani allegations that the latter shot down an Afghan Air Force plane and hit another 17 May, according to a BAKHTAR statement. The agency claimed that the two aircraft "suffered damage" during "mopping operations" against "sold-out elements" inside the DRA, and denied that the damage resulted from any encounter between Afghan and Pakistani aircraft.

Pakistan lodged a "strong" protest with Afghanistan over a shooting incident north of Chaman during the night of 14-15 May in which an Afghan refugee was killed; a 17 May shelling incident near Parachinar in which a soldier was wounded; and the 19 May shelling of two villages in Khurram Agency during which four Pakistanis were killed and two others wounded.

Sudan

The clandestine SPLA radio announced that the SPLA attacked and subsequently occupied Tali District near Mundri in Equatoria administrative area.

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AFP: Government Denies Aircraft Shot Down in Pakistan

BK211718 Hong Kong AFP in English 1715 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 21 (AFP) — Afghanistan denied Wednesday assertions that Pakistani jets had shot down an Afghan aircraft said to have intruded into Pakistan on Saturday.

The official Afghan news agency BAKHTAR acknowledged that two Afghan planes had been damaged "at the hands of counter-revolutionaries" while on a mission to "eliminate" them. But it described the Pakistani charge that the dogfight had taken place inside its air space as "baseless" and "aimed at appeasing Washington."

The incident took place inside Afghanistan and no Afghan plane intruded into Pakistan, BAKHTAR said in a statement relayed by Radio Kabul, monitored here.

The agency did not identify the type of plane that was damaged.

Pakistani officials said one Soviet-built warplane was downed near the city of Parachinar, about 16 kilometers (10 miles) inside Pakistan, and another was damaged and flew back into Afghanistan, its tail section flaming.

The Afghan jets were said to have been fired on by U.S.-built Pakistani F-16s using air-to-air missiles. Reporters on Monday were shown small pieces of debris with Russian markings said to have been part of the wreckage.

It was the first time Pakistan has claimed to have shot down an intruding Afghan warplane since the Soviet Union intervened in Afghanistan in 1979.

BAKHTAR Counters Pakistan Claims

LD211650 Kabul BAKHTAR in Dari 1130 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Kabul, 21 May (BAKHTAR) — On 18 May this year the Pakistani authorities, through a news broadcast, made allegations that the Air Force of that country had attacked two Hunter aircraft of the DRA which were engaged in a flight over the Parachinar areas and as a result one of the aircraft was shot down and the other was severely damaged.

The BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY was instructed, in reply to this groundless allegations of the Islamabad militarist authorities, to state:

This is not the first time that the militarist regime of Pakistan has resorted to such groundless claims against the DRA. By resorting to such fabrications under the direct instructions of the Washington administration, the militarist regime of Islamabad is trying to accuse the DRA of violating international norms and regulations, defame its peace-seeking policy and, through utilizing such pretexts, justify its interference against the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country in the eyes of the world.

The fact of the matter is, that what happened is completely different from the fabrications made up by the Pakistani authorities. In order to explain how the Pakistani authorities have altered the facts of the event and publicized it, we would like to explain the truth of the incident:

On 17 May this year two aircraft of the DRA Air Force, in the course of the mopping operations against the subservient and sold-out elements inside the country, suffered damage. The damage suffered in no way emanated from their violation of the borders of the DRA [as received] or any fighting operations between DRA aircraft and that of Pakistan.

It should be pointed out that, by resorting to such baseless allegations, the Pakistani militarist regime authorities can no longer distort world public opinion to justify the blatant intervention of that country against the DRA and defame the peace-loving policy of the DRA, which is consistently trying to solve the situation around Afghanistan.

In pursuing the principles of good-neighborliness, the DRA, while severely condemning the groundless allegations of the Pakistani authorities, once again draws to the attention of that regime's authorities the fact that resorting to such baseless allegations will only result in aggravating releations between the two countries.

BAKHTAR Political Observer Views Ziaul Haq's Regime

LD210752 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 20, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Ziaul Haq's administration is going to dismiss Fakhar Imam, speaker of the so-called Parliament and intends to appoint somebody else to the position.

Fakhar Imam is one of the independent members in the Parliament of Pakistan, who was elected as speaker of the house after defeating a representative of Ziaul's regime. The real cause of his dismissal is the fact that he gives a chance to the members of the house for raising their voice against Ziaul Haq's regime.

The military regime not only has not improved the socioeconomic conditions of the Pakistani people during the past over eight years but has converted the territory of Pakistan to a military base of Washington's administration for the suppression of the progressive movements of Pakistan and other countries in the region. Presently, the U.S. rapid deploy forces and centcom are stationed in that country.

The U.S. administration is rendering to Pakistan its biggest military aid in order to draw it further to the aggressive and strategic policy of Reagan's administration in southwest Asia.

Ziaul Haq's regime contrary to the will of Pakistan people have set up the military camps for the Afghan counter-revolution as well as for the Sikh secessionists of India in the territory of that country.

The people of Pakistan have several times raised their protest voice against the cruel policy of Ziaul Haq and against the intervention of the U.S. imperialism into the internal affairs of Pakistan and the anti-Afghani policy of Islamabad regime. They in their protest demonstrations, have demanded Ziaul Haq to resign.

The demonstrators, the political figures and the progressive forces of Pakistan have repeatedly called upon the regime to withdraw the Afghan counter-revolutionaries who have disrupted the peaceful life of the people.

The people of Pakistan understand that the terrorist policy of Islamabad regime has dangerous consequences and that is why they are continuing their struggles against Ziaul's regime till it is overthrown.

Mujahidin Attack Soviet Garrison, Down 2 Planes

GF211511 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1400 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, 21 May (SPA) — The Afghan Mujahidin attacked a Soviet garrison in Parwan Province north of Kabul on13 May, killing 9 Soviet troops, one an officer, and wounding 16 others. The sources added that during this attack four tanks and armored vehicles were destroyed, and the mujahidin downed two Soviet planes in the (Zazay) region in Paktia Province when the occupation planes heavily strafed the region on 10 May. One of the Mujahidin leaders said that the Soviet fighters used new kinds of bombs when raiding the Mujahidin positions.

Protest Lodged With DRA Over Attack on Border Areas

BK211735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Afghan Armed Forces opened fire with 12.7-mm machine guns on the night between the 14th and 15th of this month in the village of Murdar Baghicha in the northern outskirts of Chaman. As a result, an Afghan refugee girl was killed.

Afghan Armed Forces also shelled on Saturday at 1030 the area of Kotri, Bara Hissar, and (Shadul Kar) frontier corps post, about 16 km northwest of Parachinar in Khurram Agency. As a result, a soldier was injured.

Afghan forces fired 25 rounds of artillery last Monday at 0700 which landed in villages (Tuperzai) and (Alizai), approximately 1 km north of Teri Mangal frontier corps post in Khurram Agency. As a result, four Pakistani nationals were killed and two injured. Besides, a few houses were damaged.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office today and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform his authorities that if such attacks did not cease, the entire responsibility would rest on the Kabul authorities.

Further Reportage on Visit of PRC's Fu Hao

Noorani, Fu Hao Dinner Speeches

BK210420 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] The Chinese good-will delegation led by Fu Hao attended a dinner in Islamabad last night hosted in its honor by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani.

Speaking on this occasion. Zain Noorani said Pakistan and China share the same views on the world situation and are making efforts to establish a just global system free from any sort of economic (?disparity) and from political domination of one country on another. He said this sort of cooperation not only benefits the people of the two countries but also promotes peace and solidarity in the region and the world.

In his speech, Mr Fu Hao said that, after the establishment of diplomatic relations, the roots of friendship between the peoples of the two countries have been further strengthened. He said the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries are based on the principle of peaceful coexistence.

Both countries are peace-loving, oppose war, and maintain close relations with each other on international affairs.

He said that, while sincerely executing the recognized norms of good-neighborly relations, we have honored each other's freedom and sovereignty and have supported each other on the basis of these principles in the face of difficulties and pressure from any other country.

We have promoted bilateral cooperation based on mutual benefit and equality.

Calls on Prime Minister

BK211530 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] The 7-member Chinese good-will delegation led by Fu Hao, vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, called on Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo in Rawalpindi today.

Fu Hao conveyed PRC Premier Zhao Ziyang's message of good wishes to the prime minister and also noted the existing cordial relations between Pakistan and China.

The prime minister asked the leader of the PRC delegation to convey his best wishes to the Chinese premier. He said that mutual respect, goodwill, and close friendship existing between China and Pakistan are a source of happiness and satisfaction for the people of the two countries.

PRC Envoy Hosts Reception

BK220345 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo attended a reception hosted by the Chinese ambassador in Islamabad yesterday evening on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between Pakistan and China.

NEPAL

Former Minister Says Government Interfered in Polls

BK171415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] In Nepal Rashtriya Panchayat [parliament] elections 35 results from 28 districts have been declared so far. The former water resources minister, Mr Pashupati Rana, has won the Sindhupal Chowk District with a record of 51,000 votes.

Counting of votes is in progress in the remaining district.

The former home minister, Mr Jog Mehar Shrestha, is trailing behind his nearest rival by over 15,000 votes.

Mr Shrestha, who had held various ministerial positions in the partyless Panchayat system, has alleged large-scale interference by the government machinery in the poll. Talking to newsmen in Katmandu today, he said the interim government which was formed to hold the general election in Nepal in a free and fair manner, has failed in its task.

AFP: Air Link Talks With PRC Officials Held

BK190559 Hong Kong AFP in English 0544 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 19 (AFP) — Chinese and Nepalese airline officials are holding talks here aimed at arranging the earliest possible start to direct flights between Nepal and Tibet, an official source said Monday.

Officials from the Civial Aviation Administration of China [CAAC] and Royal Nepal Airlines (RNAC) were holding talks here Monday to discuss inaugurating the direct flights to boost tourism for both states, the official added.

The five-member Chinese delegation, led by CAAC Deputy International Relations Chief Lu Guang Hwa, had already held an hour-long meeting with Secretary of Tourism and RNAC Chairman Birendra Nath Khujeli after arriving in Katmandu Sunday. The delegation also had talks Sunday with RNAC Managing Director Bali Ram Singh on the working procedures for the proposed air service.

The Chinese delegation told reporters that China would give its full support to developing tourism to and from Tibet and said they hoped this week's talks would yield positive results. They are due to hold a series of talks with Nepalese officials and are to return to China Saturday.

SRI LANKA

President To Brief India's Dixit on Jaffna 'Bombing'

BK220321 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] President Jayewardene will have talks with the Indian high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit, within the next couple of days to clear the misunderstanding between India and Sri Lanka over the recent incidents in Jaffna.

The Sri Lankan Cabinet spokesman, the minister of state, Mr Ananda Tissa de Alwis, told newsmen after the Cabinet meeting yesterday that there was no bombing or attacks on civilians in the Jaffna area. He said the Sri Lankan Armed Forces have not fired a single shot at the hospital. It charged that the slight damage was caused to the hospital by an explosion of a militant bomb.

The Jaffna citizens' committee has written to the government agent in Jaffna to inspect the hospital and shops in the bazaar, which was hit by the aerial attack, and see for himself how damage was inflicted on civilian targets. They have also appealed for an immediate supply of oxygen cylinders to Jaffna hospital because there has been almost no oxygen in the hospital for the last 1 month.

The Sri Lankan Government yesterday also denied the bombing and strafing of Velvettiturai. A communique issued by the National Security Ministry said a representative of the Velvettiturai citizens' committee had resorted to this information campaign on behalf of the terrorists.

Residents from Velvettiturai who fled the area after bombing told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, that at least 40 houses have been badly damaged in the air attack. One temple, one bank, and one school have been almost destroyed.

The situation in Jaffna peninsula remained quiet last night but with sporadic gunfire. Troops have also been withdrawn from the Kayts sector.

Prime Minister on Emergency, Dam Burst Inquiry

BK211120 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 May 86

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Premadasa has told the parliament that a special presidential commission of inquiry would be appointed to inquire into the recent brach of the Kantalai dam. The head of the commission will be a justice of the Appeal Court of Sri Lanka.

The prime minister was speaking during the debate on the extension of the emergency by a further month, which was later passed by a two thirds majority in the house.

Referring to the terrorist movement, the prime minister said that terrorism was aimed at ruining democracy and the freedom of the people. The prime minister recalled that the leader of the opposition and his party criticized Mr Premadasa when he disclosed information on the terrorist campaign launched by terrorist leaders operating in India. However, they have now realized the correct position.

Referring to a statement made by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike in a radio program which was meant for the Sinhalese community in Australia, the prime minister said that Mrs Bandaranaike had said that a general election should be held to ensure a Tamil representation in Parliament. She had stated that the clause for the acceptance of the country's unitary status by the MP's as provided by the Sixth Amendment to the Constitution should be removed.

But he recalled that the Sri Lanka Freedom Party had even criticized the government for delaying the amendment.

It also voted voted for the amendment.

Gelignite Found at Police Station; Civilians Killed

BK211136 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] The Criminal Investigatioin Department has recovered a large haul of gelignite sticks. Four hundred and fifty sticks of gelignite have been found at the police post terrace yesterday.

LANKA PUWATH, quoting police sources, said that a stick of gelignite had been produced before the government analyst. Police say that remaining explosives would be destroyed.

Marxist-oriented separatist terrorists have abducted nine civilians and brutally killed all of them, security sources told LANKA PUWATH.

The group of civilians, consisting four men and five women, were first reported missing on 18 May from (Mornova) in Trincomalee area.

Security sources said later it was reported that the terrorists abducted and killed all of them.

Further Reportage on Rahmani Visit to Libya

Conveys Khamene'i Message to Al-Qadhdhafi

LD210834 Tehran IRNA in English 0750 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, May 20n IRNA — Head of the Basij unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) currently here on an official visit Tuesday submitted a written message of IRGC commander, Mohsen Reza'i to chief commander of the Libyan Armed Forces, brigader general Abu Bakr Yunis.

During the meeting, the Libyan commander referred to the solidarity between the Islamic revolution of Iran and the Libyan revolution. He also pointed out that Libya stood beside the Islamic revolution in its support for Islamic movements of the world. Therefore, he added, the United States and its allies have been trying to damage the two revolutions because the two revolutions have jeopardised interests of imperialism, Zionism and reactionaries of the region.

The Libyan commander Abu Bakr said that the presence of the Iranian delegation in Tripoli was a measure to prove that the Islamic nations are after expanding their joint efforts to counter imperialism and to obtain their rights.

Refering to the U.S. attack on Libya, he said that raising issues such as terrorism was merely a pretext to push Libya to a passive position.

Drawing a parallel between the U.S. attack on Libya and its defeat in Tabas in Iran, Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani said that similarity of the two attacks indicated that Iran and Libya were pioneers of anti-imperialist campaign.

Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani referred to the Iraqi defeat in Val-Fajr-8 operations launched in Al-Faw last February and said that military experts assisting Iraq were stunned by Iran's assault. He also briefed General Abu Bakr of the recent Iranian victories in the battle fronts.

Hojjat-ol-Eslam Rahmani arrived here Monday heading a delegation and met with commander of the Libyan popular forces, Colonel Mahdi al-'Arabi on Tuesday. He is carrying a message from President 'Ali Khamene'i of Iran for the Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Charge in Khartoum Meets Sudanese Official

LD191958 Tehran IRNA in English 1818 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 19, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran's charge d'affaires to Khartoum met with member of Sudanese ruling council Ahmad Osman Mirghani in Khartoum Monday. Expansion of bilateral relations in different fields was discussed in the meeting.

Meanwhile, in Tehran Monday outgoing Cuban ambassador to Tehran Luis Marisy Figueredo discussed mutual cultural ties with Higher Education Minister Mohammad Farhadi.

Further Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit to Paris

Meets Prime Minister Chirac

LD220622 Tehran IRNA in English 0618 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 22, IRNA — Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, currently here heading a delegation, met French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac Wednesday and presented him a message from the Iranian Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi.

At the end of his 1½-hour talks with the French premier, Mo'ayeri told reporters that his meetings with French officials have been held in friendly atmosphere.

On issues discussed with Chirac, he said that the talks included subjects which had been topics of discussions between officials of the two countries since two years ago. The subjects, he added, were repayment of a one-billion dollar loan to Iran, France's impartiality in the Iraqi-imposed war, anti-Iranian propaganda by France, and fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries in France.

On the French hostages in Beirut, Mo'ayeri said that the Islamic Republic of Iran was against hostage taking which was also rejected by Islam. He stressed that Iran would take any measures within its power, wherever in the world, to oppose hostage taking.

Mo'ayeri and his accompanying delegation arrived here Tuesday for a three-day official visit to hold talks with French officials on the normalization of bilateral relations.

Meets With President Mitterrand

LD220707 Tehran IRNA in English 0700 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, 22 May, IRNA — Deputy Prime Minister for political affairs 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri Wednesday met with French President Francois Mitterrand and handed over a message of Iran's President 'Ali Khamene'i.

President Mitterrand expressed hope that the Iranian delegation upon its return to Iran would carry a message of friendship and hope in the benefit of the two countries. He stressed that the existing relations between the two countries were not at a satisfactory level, adding that relations which were moving towards separation should be directed to solidarity and unity. Therefore, he added, the bilateral ties would become deeper and stronger everyday. The president stressed that he would personally follow up the improvement of mutual relations.

Meanwhile, Mo'ayeri referred to factors straining mutual relations and reiterated the necessity of solving the existing problems. He said that France's refusal to repay to Iran a one-billion-dollar loan was one of the major financial disputes between the two countries. Moreover, he added, France's overall support for the Iraqi regime in its imposed war and also for the fugitive Iranian counterrevolutionaries were among other problems.

Mo'ayeri, heading a delegation, is on a 3-day official visit to France. He arrived here Tuesday. The trip is made following the last April visit of a ranking French delegation to Tehran to normalize mutual relations.

Further on Mitterrand Meeting

GF220625 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Yesterday afternoon during a meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, the political deputy of our country's prime minister, who is currently on a 3-day visit to Paris as the head of a delegation scheduled to meet with French officials, delivered a written message from Mr Seyyed 'ali Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

During the meeting the French president expressed his thanks for the reply to a message sent to Mr Khamene'i by the general secretary of the French Foreign Ministry last April. He expressed his hope that on their return to Iran the high-ranking Iranian delegation would be carrying messages of friendship and hope concerned with relations between the two countries. He added that relations between the two countries are currently not at a proper level and therefore, not satisfactory. He noted that the relations, which have been moving toward separation, must be guided toward unity until ties between these two ancient and great countries of France and Iran become stronger and deeper each day. He also emphasized that, as well as following up on the circumstances of relations between the two countries by the French Government, he himself would pursue improvement in bilateral relations.

During the meeting, while enumerating the stances of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the reasons why relations between the two countries became strained, our country's deputy prime minister emphasized the need to overcome the present problems in bilateral relations and in deepening relations.

Yesterday, Mr Mo'ayeri also met with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, and delivered a written message from Prime Minister Musavi. Following a 90-minute meeting with Mr Chirac, he told reporters that his meetings with French officials took place in a completely friendly atmosphere.

Reportage on Recent Kurdish Operations

3 Military Bases Attacked

LD180944 Tehran IRNA in English 0922 GMT 18 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., May 18, IRNA — Iraqi Muslim revolutionary Kurds attacked three Iraqi military bases in Zakhu, Dahuk Province north of Iraq, and took over one of them. Reports reaching here from inside Iraq said that during the attack launched last week, a number of Iraqi forces were killed, six of them captured, and large amount of munition was seized.

Meanwhile Iraqi helicopters shot and killed 20 fishermen in Dukan region, Irbil Province northeast of Iraq, last week. Reliable sources from inside Iraq said that during the attacks five other fishermen of the region were injured. The Iraqi regime has forced the arrested fishermen to spread the rumour that Iranian planes have attacked them, the reports added.

Meanwhile a number of villagers in the area were arrested on charges of cooperating with Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, and four revolutionaries were martyred at Abu Gharib prison by the Iraqi regime, the reports said.

Battle Successes Detailed

LD201032 Tehran IRNA in English 1020 GMT 20 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, W. Azarbayjan Prov., May 20, IRNA — Several Iraqi soldiers and NCO's were killed and an armoured vehicle and an artillery piece belonging to the Iraqi Ba'thist forces were destroyed in a desperate Iraqi attack against Muslim revolutionary Kurds in Dahuk Province, North Iraq, late last week. Reports from inside Iraq said that the Iraqi forces, sustaining loss of forces and munition, were forced to retreat leaving their dead soldiers. The Iraqi Kurds seized considerable amount of munition from the Iraqi forces, the report added.

Clash With Iraqi 'Agents'

LD211344 Tehran IRNA in English 1315 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 21, IRNA — Muslim Iraqi Kurdish Freedom fighters (Peshmergas) liberated a military base and captured 24 soldiers in a heavy attack in Kani Morvarid on May 5, according to reports reaching from Iraq.

Meanwhile other Peshmergas clashed with Iraqi Government agents in village of Bribikeh and Shahr-Zur region early this month killing two of them. After the clash Iraqi reinforcement raided the village and killed three 60-and 70-year old men.

Since the Iraqi Ba'athist regime came to power in 1968 it has conducted a reign of terror in Iraq, especially against its Kurdish minority.

In related reports, the first group of Iranian Muslim guerrillas from Lorestan Province departed for the battlefields Wednesday. The company-size group have experiences in guerrilla warfare.

Iraqi Claim of Downing F-4 Fighter-Bomber Denied

LD220554 Tehran IRNA in English 0520 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Iran Thursday denied Iraqi allegations of having downed an Iranian fighter-bomber in the central battle fronts Wednesday.

A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters (WIH) said that Iraqi claims "were mere lies". He added that Iranian fighter-bombers returned safely to their bases after successfully bombing enemy positions in Mehran.

An Iraqi military spokesman allegedly claimed that Iraq on Wednesday downed an Iranian F-4 bomber in the central fronts.

Air Force Ready To Hit Targets Deep Inside Iraq

LD170756 Tehran IRNA in English 0740 GMT 17 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 17, IRNA — The Iranian Air Force Pilots are able to hit any target deep inside Iraq any time the officials deem it necessary, an air Force pilot said in a television interview here Friday night.

Captain Mahmud Eskandari who participated in the raid on Iraqi oil installations in Kirkuk Wednesday which leveled it to the ground, said that the attack on Kirkuk oil refinery, the largest in Iraq was in retaliation for the Iraqi attacks on Iranian oil installations. The refinery, he told viewers, is of great strategic importance and located next to the Kirkuk air base equipped with modern defence system.

The destructive raid on Kirkuk once again proved falsity of the Iraqi claims and that of the Western Media on the superiority of the Iraqi Air Force, Colonel Eskandari added. Until the Wednesday attack the Iraqi regime considered Kirkuk refinery as the most invulnerable, he added.

Flight Lieutenant Zamani describing the attack on Kirkuk as 100 percent destructive reiterated that Iran will not leave the Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas and economic centers, unanswered. He said that the Iranian pilots who carried out the mission all returned safely to their bases.

15 Young Iraqi POW's Transferred Behind Lines

LD191659 Tehran IRNA in English 1555 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 19, IRNA — Another 15 Iraqi prisoners of war among them three youths of 15 to 17 who were taken captive in Hajj 'Umran 100 kms northeast of Iraqi provincial center of [words indistinct] over the past few days were transferred to the Iranian side of the war fronts Monday. The POW's confessed that they had been forced by the Baghdad regime to join the army.

Claim Commanders Killed in Hajj 'Umran

LD191942 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] Orumiyeh, West Azarbayjan Prov., May 19 IRNA — Hajj 'Umran is yet another grim reminder of Iraq's losing war against Islamic Republic of Iran according to Iraqi POW's taken captive in the said region. Iraqi POW Sabah Kuyesh told IRNA that some Iraqi commanders had been killed in Hajj 'Umran region. He said that he was glad to have saved his soul.

Another POW, Fifteen year old 'Ali Husayn Chandi of Division 884 said that the Baghdad government forcibly sent him to the war fronts. He was previously a student at (Thaneviybdianeh). POW Chandi said that many young adults mostly students have been impressed into military service.

Other POW's said that heavy fire of the Muslim combatants of Iran had crippled the Ba'thist forces and that Iraqi forces had sustained heavy losses in their aborted attack.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

800 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran

LD211016 Tehran IRNA in English 0952 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Mehran, Ilam Prov., May 21, IRNA — The Islamic Forces of Iran in an attack on Iraqi troops in Mehran, Iran-Iraq border, mopped up a section in northern Mehran and killed or wounded 800 Iraqis, Tuesday night. During the attack the Iranian combatants destroyed 15 enemy tanks and personnel carriers as well as a number of armoured vehicles, and captured a number of Iraqi forces.

Meanwhile three personnel of an Iraqi tank surrendered to the Muslim forces of Iran Tuesday night. The fierce fighting is continuing in Mehran operational theater.

Total of 32 Iraqi Helicopters Downed

LD211133 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters the center of the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while keeping every movement of the Zionist enemy under control and bringing his positions under fire, the combatants of Islam in the Hajj 'Umran sector shot down two helicopters of the defeated Iraqi forces in (Harena) valley, deep inside enemy positions, at 0930 today, bringing the total of Ba'thist helicopters shot down during the past few days' clashes in the Hajj 'Umran sector to 32.

The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced: The fast flying Iranian Air Force pilots bombed Iraqi positions in the sector north of (Al-Imarah) at coordinates of 32 degrees 26 minutes north and 47 degrees 10 minutes east at 1130 today.

Correspondent Reports From Mehran

LD211226 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 May 86

[Telephone report by Central News Unit correspondent from the Mehran operational sector]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The warriors of God's army, in continuation of their courageous battle against the Iraqi aggressors, last night and this morning, in the course of two victorious infiltration operations, attacked the heart of positions, fortifications, and emplacements of the Zionist enemy on the Mehran front and succeeded in completely destroying two infantry and armored battalions; 50 percent of another commando battalion was also destroyed. During these victorious operations, the armored divisions of the corps of monothism set ablaze and destroyed 15 tanks and personnel carriers, 6 vehicles, and several light and heavy mortar launchers of the Iraqi aggressors. Thanks to intense fire from the combatants of Islam, one enemy artillery unit was destroyed and their battery fire was silenced along several axes.

Several correspondents from the Central News Unit who closely witnessed the bravery of the ever-victorious forces of Islam reported: The accuracy and speed of the forces of Islam, backed by divine succor, brought great victory to the selfless warriors of the corps of monotheism in these operations.

During these infiltration operations which were launched with the coordination of the selfless mobilization forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Reconstruction Jihad workers, the combatants of Islam taught a new lesson to Iraq's shattered forces.

Following the Iraqi forces defeat last night, Saddam's defeated commanders regrouped the remnants of their forces and with the backing of several units of Iraq's Presidential Guards and launched three counterattacks this morning. But each time they were confronted by the forces of Islam and, after suffering losses and casualties, retreated. In the course of repulsing today's enemy counterattacks, six Saddamist tanks were destroyed, two of their tanks were captured intact, and another group of the Iraqi aggressors were taken prisoners by the forces of Islam.

On the other hand, the brave pilots of the corps of monotheism, flying several of their fighter-bombers at 0520 and 0540 this morning, bombed armored positions and concentration points of the enemy infantry and artillery units in the border sector of Mehran and, after inflicting deadly blows on the enemy, returned to their bases safely and victorious.

Mehran Fighting Continues

LD211917 Tehran IRNA in English 1911 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Ilam, Ilam Prov., May 21, IRNA — Iran's counter offensive on Iraqi forces in Mehran Wednesday destroyed six Iraqi tanks and several military vehicles. Two tanks and a howitzer were also seized from the Iraqis.

During the operation 16 Iraqi soldiers among them two officers were captured by Iranian combatants and transferred behind the fronts.

According to reports Iraqi artillery battalions 53, 22 and tanks from brigade 59, first battalion of brigade 606 of division 16, and first battalion of infantry brigade 94 were totally destroyed. Fighting still continues in the region.

2,300 Iraqi Casualties in Mehran

LD221124 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] With their heavy fire on enemy armor and infantry positions in the Mehran sector, the combatants of Islam killed or wounded more than 300 enemy forces, bringing the total over the past 5 days of battle in the region to 2,300.

An IRNA report from the Mehran operational sector says intensive fire of the Islamic forces yesterday brought down two Iraqi helicopter gunships.

Iraqis Unable To Move Casualties

LD211245 Tehran IRNA in English 1145 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Hajj 'Umran, Liberated Iraq, May 21, IRNA — An Iraqi sergeant taken captive here Wednesday revealed that Iraqi commanders have ordered their units not to transfer wounded soldiers behind the fronts until clashes end. Sergeant Muhammad 'Attiah said many wounded soldiers have died of bleeding near their positions and their comrades had to witness their gradual death because of the orders. The Iraqi POW also disclosed that Colonel 'Abd al-Razzaq, the commander of Infantry Brigade 433 of the 23th Division had been killed by a hand grenade.

Al-Ta'min commando battalion was annihilated and its personnel routed at the beginning of the clashes in Hajj 'Umran, he said.

Communique No 2,477

LD211733 Tehran IRNA in English 1706 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 21, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraqi troop positions in northern Iraqi city of Al-'Amarah at 32.26 north and 47.10 east coordinates at 11-30 hours (08:00 hours GMT) Wednesday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them, according to a military communique here Wednesday.

The Joint Staff communique number 2477 says that Iranian fighter bombers had earlier pounded concentration centers of Iraqi troops and armoured units twice Wednesday morning. The planes after successfully carrying out their missions and inflicting heavy casualties and losses on the enemy returned to their bases safely.

The communique says that Iranian naval units intercepted and inspected six cargo ships sailing under foreign flags near the Hormuz Strait Monday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any war-related goods for the Iraqi regime.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, exchange of artillery fire and mortar fire continued sporadically Tuesday in which five tanks, two trucks, three munitions dumps and three observation posts of Iraqi forces were destroyed and a number of enemy soldiers killed or wounded.

Muslim forces of Iran recaptured a strategic height and Reza-Abad border outpost near Mehran early Wednesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on Iraqi forces and forcing them to retreat, says the communique.

The military communique says that Iranian Muslim combatants checked transfer of Iraqi armoured units in Panjwin Tuesday and Wednesday.

In Sumar, the communique says, an Iranian patrol unit in a clash with Iraqi patrols killed or wounded a number of them, seized some military hardware of theirs and routed the rest of them.

Several Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Qasr-e Shirin and Salman-Koshteh were forced to flee after sustaining casualties by artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants, says the communique.

The communique says that an undetermined number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and ten enemy gun emplacements and observation posts together with eight light and heavy vehicles destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday. Iranian gendarmerie forces smashed an Iraqi offensive in Bayat early Tuesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them and forcing them to retreat, according to the communique. In Nahr-Anbar, the communique says, Islamic forces of Iran pounded an Iraqi patrol unit and checked enemy engineering and transport operations. Meanwhile, Iraqi long range artillery fire on the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Tuesday damaged 18 houses and part of a hospital.

Fighter-Bombers Hit Iraqi Infantry

LD220631 Tehran IRNA in English 0625 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — The Iranian fighter-bombers hit Iraqi infantry and armoured group concentration positions in Mehran operational theater, west Iran on Iran-Iraq border, Thursday morning. A joint staff statement released here said that the bombing was carried out at 05:15 local time (01:45 GMT) and inflicted heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces. The Iranian fighter-bombers all returned safely to their bases, the statement said.

Iraqi Positions in Mehran Bombed

LD221129 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran reports that at 0515 today, Air Force fighter-bombers of the Islamic Republic of Iran bombed the Zionist enemy's armor and infantry concentrations in the Mehran operational theater. After inflicting substantial casualties and losses on the enemy, they all returned safely to their bases. The report says that at 1640 yesterday, Air Force fighter planes of the Islamic Republic of Iran carried out their third bombing raid on enemy positions in the Mehran sector.

Iraqi Attack in Faqqeh 'Crushed'

LD220725 Tehran IRNA in English 0720 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — The attack of the Iraqi forces in Faqqeh Operational theater, launched since the past few days, was crushed by the Islamic Forces of Iran.

'Hundreds' of Iraqis Killed

LD220926 Tehran IRNA in English 0809 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Faqqeh Region, May 22, IRNA — The Iraqi attack on Faqqeh region, launched during the past few days, was crushed by the Islamic forces of Iran who made the defeated enemy to flee the area Thursday. The Islamic combatants of Iran by employing tactical measures and through their heavy artillery fire exerted unbearable pressures on the Iraqi enemy to the extent that forced the disorganized enemy forces to flee the battlefield.

Hundreds of Iraqi forces were killed or wounded and those who fled the operational theater left behind a large amount of weaponry which were seized by the Islamic forces of Iran.

A military commander in the operational theater told IRNA that the Iraqi forces were to be completely surrounded by the Iranian forces. But, he added, in order to avoid complete destruction, the Iraqi forces evacuated the positions they had occupied and retreated. He said that since the area is sandy and Iraqi forces retreated the battlefield hastily, they sustained heavy casualties. But, the commander noted, the exact figure of the casualties cannot be estimated yet since the Iranian forces are still chasing the fleeing Iraqi troops.

Faqqeh Operational Region Liberated

LD220955 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0908 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, dear listeners, please pay attention. On the basis of the latest report from the Khatam ol-Anibya' Headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, following the last-ditch effort of the forces of the Iraqi Ba'thist-Zionist regime on various fronts and the heavy defeat they suffered in the operational sectors -- particularly in the Hajj 'Umran region -- the mighty warriors of Islam, in the course of an intense clash last night with the enemy forces in the Faqqeh operational theater, by pounding the enemy positions, liberated hundreds of kilometers of the occupied territory and forced the defeated enemy to retreat and flee the area.

The mighty warriors of Islam also succeeded in totally wiping out several battalions of enemy troops and in killing or wounding more than 1,500. In the course of last night's clash in the strategic region of Faqqeh, the region and its surrounding villages were cleansed from the filth of the presence of the enemy elements, and the combatants of Islam destroyed a large number of their weapons, including dozens of tanks and personnel carriers. Some were taken intact as booty.

Khatam ol-Anbiya' HQ on Faqqeh

LD220958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0926 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] Dear listeners, please pay attention to the latest report we just received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters: On the basis of a report just received from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, the center for combined operations of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, the brave warriors of the corps of Islam defeated the enemy in the Faqqeh operational sector and succeeded in fully establishing themselves along the strategic axes of this region and its surrounding areas. During a lightning attack on enemy positions this morning, our forces captured dozens of kilometers of enemy territory on the other side of Faqqeh and raised the proud flag of dear Islam in that area.

One of the operational commanders of the corps of Islam in the Faqqeh sector said in an interview with our reporters that the remarkable victories of the mighty combatants of the corps of monotheism are indescribable.

He added: The mighty forces of the Islamic Revolution have now fully consolidated themselves in the Faqqeh operational sector and are controlling all enemy moves and have inflicted heavy blows on the enemy, thanks to the undiminishing divine support and prayers of our God-seeking ummah.

Tehran Arabic on Faqqeh Operation

GF220925 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] According to reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint command of the Islamic forces, during violent fighting last night against the forces of the aggressive 'Aflaqi regime in Faqqeh, the valiant Islamic combatants succeeded in liberating large new areas from the vileness of the infidel Ba'thist regime, inflicting very severe losses on the aggressors' forces in life and equipment.

According to the latest reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, battles still continue in this area. The Islamic combatants have great superiority. We will later announce to you the details of the latest developments.

Tehran Arabic: Further on Faqqeh

GF220946 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0925 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. We have just received the following report. According to reports from Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, joint command of the Islamic forces, during violent fighting last night against the aggressive 'Aflaqi regime in Faqqeh, the valiant Islamic combatants have succeeded in liberating new large areas — in excess of 390 square kilometers — from the vileness of the infidel Ba'thist regime, inflicting severe losses on the aggressors' forces in life and equipment after completely destroying several regiments.

Latest Khatam ol-Anbiya' reports add that violent battles still continue, and that the Islamic combatants have great superiority. We will announce to you the latest developments and details later. Verily victory is from God and conquest is near. [Koranic verse]

New Successes in Fakkeh Area

GF220957 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0938 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Army and the Islamic Revolution Guards Forces, has announced that, following the desperate moves of the enemy and his great defeats, the Islamic combatants in the operations areas, particularly in Hajj 'Umran, during a violent battle against the forces of the Iraqi regime in the Faqqeh operations sector, succeeded in liberating hundreds of square kilometers and forced the retreating enemy to withdraw from this area. The heroic Islamic combatants succeeded in crushing numerous enemy regiments and destroying them completely. They killed and wounded more than 1500 members of these regiments.

During yesterday's operations they combed the strategic Faqqeh area and the surrounding villages and purged them of the vileness of the enemy elements, which also suffered the destruction of further equipment and scores of tanks, and troop carriers. Also during this operation the heroes of Islam captured equipment and tanks of the Ba'thist enemy.

We will bring to you later the latest details and developments. It is God who gives victory, and conquest is near. [Koranic verse]

Iraqi Areas in Faqqeh 'Liberated'

GF221004 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0948 GMT 22 May 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Latest reports from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, indicate that the valiant Islamic combatants, within their complete stationing in and control over all the strategic areas and sectors in Faqqeh which they liberated last night, launched a lightning attack this morning against the positions of the 'Aflaqi forces inside Iraqi territory at the other end of the strategic Faqqeh area. Reports add that the Islamic combatants succeeded in liberating scores of square kilometers of Iraqi territory in this area. They raised Islamic banners over them. At this time they are in complete control of all the liberated areas. Victory is granted by Almighty God.

Opposition Paper Critizes U.S. Policy Towards Regime

WA2116530 Paris ARA in Persian 6 May pp 1-2

[Text] In his speech, which was to be considered a rebuttal to Ronald Reagan's threat, Hashemi-Rafsanjani ridiculed comments of the U.S. President regarding the punishment of terrorist-nurturing regimes, such as the Islamic Republic and Syria, in case of sufficient evidence about the role of these countries in inciting and encouraging terrorism. At the same time, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stated that if Mr Reagan dares to try to attack Iran, they will show him what real terrorism means.

Ronald Reagan's remarks certainly had called for such a response. But it is quite unfortunate that the president of the greatest and the most powerful country in the world should still need evidence and documents to prove the connection of the Islamic Republic and Syria with the international network of terrorism. What more proof is needed other than the fact that during the past six years, in all of the terrorist acts perpetrated against American citizens throughout the Islamic world, the ayatollah has somehow or other been involved in all of them? Is it not a fact that ever since the day Ruhollah Khomeyni came to power, the amount of humiliation brought upon the United States has indeed been unprecedented in the 210-year history of this country?

What kind of documents and evidence does Mr Reagan need to prove that the Islamic Republic has been involved in acts of terrorism? What further proof does Mr Reagan need when Ayatollah Khomeyni in Tehran places a turban of ayatollahship on the head of Lebanon's terrorist godfather Shaykh Muhammad Fadhlallah who has been clearly declared by the CIA to have been responsible for the explosion of the Marines' headquarters in Lebanon and for the TWA hijacking?

The Islamic Republic has every right to call the United States a "snow lion"; for during the past seven years, the leaders of this regime, who came to power with the help of the United States, have done to this "snow lion" whatever the wished; and they have heard a single roar against them. All preliminaries about the U.S. attack on Libya got under way over the killing of one American citizen on the *Achille Lauro*. But it is a simple arithmetic that the ayatollah's followers have been involved in the killing of 650 U.S. citizens and the wounding of hundreds of them as well as the humiliation of a superpower that deep in its heart still has not lost its infatuation with the ayatollah. And it is for this very reason that the United States is still hoping to utilize the services of this naughty old man.

Past experiences have shown that it is not the United States that could seriously confront the ayatollah and his henchmen; rather, it was the Russians who reacted to the ayatollah's slap with such a severe blow that this mullah of Jamaran [Khomeyni] would never again dare to fool around with the northern bear!

Our readers remember that only a few months ago, when the henchmen of the Islamic Republic in Lebanon kidnapped four Russian diplomats and killed one of them three days later, Soviet agents in Lebanon quietly kidnapped three or four of close relatives of Khomeyni's unofficial representative in Lebanon, Shaykh Muhammad Fadhlallah, including the nephew of Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin, the Hezbollah spokesman. Later, they beheaded the nephew of Hezbollah spokesman in the Soviet Embassy compound and sent his head to his uncle with a message that if the hostages were not released within a few hours, they would kill all the relatives of Shaykh Fadhlallah one by one. Two hours later, the Russian hostages were released without Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani's resorting to any threatening remarks in his Friday sermon, and without Khomeyni's representative in Lebanon having uttered one word!

If today, even the Friday imam of a small town like Natanz can still shout "The United States cannot do a damn thing", it is because everyone in the Islamic Republic knows well that the infatuation of the CIA and Pentagon with turbans and clergy is one of those infatuations that cannot be given up easily -- no matter how much the beloved plays hard to get!

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 MAY 1986

Lebanon

A car-bomb exploded in the Sinn al-Fil area of East Beirut 23 May, killing 6 people and wounding 85 others, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. An anonymous caller told the radio that the "Southern Suburb Martyrs" were responsible for the explosion. The blast in the Christiadeclared that his visit to France follows the emergence of "good impulses" in French policy after the present French Government's election, and divulged that Iran will dispatch a "high-ranking" delegation to France to attempt to resolve the problems obstructing a normalization of ties.

Iran-Iraq War

An official Iraqi military source told INA that Iranian allegations of clashes in the Faqqeh area are "cheap lies," asserting that "no battles" have taken place in that area since Iraq captured new positions there recently. However, a military communique cited by Tehran radio affirmed that Iranian forces have forced the enemy to flee from the Faqqeh area to Iraqi territory, inflicting over 2,000 casualties in the process.

In other action, an Iraqi communique carried by INA claimed that Iraq's V Army destroyed seven Iranian regiments in offensive operations in the mountainous northern sector. Iranian warplanes bombed Iraqi positions in the Mehran area, according to an Iranian communique cited by IRNA. A Tehran radio radio commentary claimed that Egyptian and Jordanian army units participated in the Iraqi attack on Mehran, berating Jordan and Egypt as "U.S. puppet regimes" which are spearheading Arab reaction.

Syria-Saudi Arabia

Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam delivered a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Saudi King Fahd during a 1-day visit to the Kingdom, SPA reported.

Qatar-Bahrain

In a statement to the Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* reported by KUNA, Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah announced that Kuwait will send three military observers to supervise the implementation of the agreement between Qatar and Bahrain regarding the Fasht al-Dibal dispute.

DRA

CPSU Central Committee Secretary Anatoliy Dobrynin revealed that a timetable for the "phased withdrawal" of Soviet troops from the DRA has already been signed with the DRA, in an interview with the Prague paper *RUDE PRAVO* cited by Kabul radio, and he emphasized that the USSR desires to withdraw its troops from the DRA in the "near future." BAKHTAR reported that 524 "deceived persons" surrendered to the authorities in Jawzjan Province.

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Dobrynin Writes on Phased Soviet Withdrawal

LD222247 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Excerpt] Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, writes in the Prague newspaper *RUDE PRAVO* that the Soviet Union completely and strongly supports the efforts of the DRA Government in defending the revolutionary values of the people of Afghanistan and in the revolutionary consolidation of the state's sovereignty.

Dobrynin adds: The Soviet Union hopes talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan, conducted under UN auspices and now in a critical phase, will be successful. We are trying to bring about a political solution that could guarantee the true cessation of armed interference and other types of intervention. The Soviet Union wants in the near future to withdraw its troops from the DRA, which are there at the request of the government of that country. A timetable for the phased withdrawal of these troops has been already signed with the Afghan side, Dobrynin said.

U.S. Foiling Search for Political Solution

LD230735 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 22, BAKHTAR — The provision of favourable conditions enabling the people of Afghanistan to construct a new life in peace and security constitute the major object of the foreign policy pursued by the DRA, writes a BAKHTAR commentator quoting Comrade Najibullah from his interview with TASS correspondent.

The victorious April Revolution of 1978 was launched by the PDPA in order to build a new and progressive Afghanistan. However, the PDPA's policy did not suit Reagan's administration and therefore, it waged the undeclared war against the DRA.

Presently, Reagan's administration has further intensified the undeclared war by putting at the disposal of the Afghan counter-revolution the most modern anti-aircraft Stinger missiles, the commentator stressed.

The DRA is making all out efforts for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and it is the Washington administration which does not allow the regional conflicts to be ended. The DRA is waiting for a positive result from the on-going Geneva talks as it has repeatedly expressed its goodwill for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan.

Presently, the progressive and political circles of Pakistan and Iran call upon their governments to stop its anti-Afghan policy and not to allow the Afghan counter-revolution to use their territories against the DRA for subversion and bloodsheds. But the bellicose regimes of Pakistan and Iran not only do not listen to the wishes of their people but play their role in the interest of U.S. imperialism.

The crux of the matter is that the U.S. imperialism and its regional allies do not want peaceful conditions to prevail, enabling the Afghan people to build a new life for themselves.

Najibullah Urges Economic Struggle, End to Red-Tape

LD221542 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 21, BAKHTAR — The realisation of the main directions of socio-economic development of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan constitutes the major means of expanding and consolidating the pillars of the social sovereignty of the people. This was said by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA, CC) at the session of the party activists of the units of the Ministry of Interior of the DRA.

Comrade Najibullah went on to say that in the present conditions paying attention to social justice and struggling for economic stability are particularly important. Employees of the ministry, Comrade Najibullah went on to say should erect a strong barrier against the embezzlement of public funds and properties. The people who encroach upon revolutionary legality, should not be spared at all.

The officers of Sarandoy (People's Police) carry more importance them any other employees of the state, as they are defending the people against the counter-revolutionaries, preserve social life and order, protect the health and wealth of the people against criminal inroads, Comrade Najibollah said.

The employees of the Ministry of Interior should become a good example of doing away with bureaucracy and red-tapism, Comrade Najibullah stressed.

At the begining of the session Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy read the fundamental report concerning the strengthening of the pillars of state power and elimination of the counter-revolutionary elements from the country.

Propaganda Drive Seeks To Sow Discord in PDPA

LD221546 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0451 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 21, BAKHTAR — A political observer of BAKHTAR writes: Recently the imperialist propaganda apparatus systematically disseminated false information about Afghanistan, in particular Kabul city.

The empty and mendacious propaganda, which is part of the psychological warfare against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, is indicative of the sinister intentions of the enemies of Afghanistan. These are provocations and deductions aimed at sowing discord in Afghanistan and implementation of the filthy conspiracies of their organisers with portraying of such false picture of Afghanistan, in particular Kabul. They intend to inculcate discord and aspersions in the ranks of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. The picture that they are attempting to portray from the situation in Kabul, Qandahar, Jalalabad and other provinces of the country are totally devoid of fact and will never be materialised.

One of the usual methods of the imperialistic propaganda apparatus is to make use of the natural developments in this or that country as a fuel for the running of its propaganda apparatus and attaining of its filthy aims. The late unbridled propaganda tirade of the imperialistic propaganda apparatus against Afghanistan is a clear example of the treacherous conspiracies and forgeries of world imperialism.

Imperialism wants to establish a link between its recent propaganda against Afghanistan and the resolutions of the 18th Plenum of the Central Committee of the PDPA. They want to confuse the world public opinion and to inculcate among them a distorted view of the real situation in the country. On the other hand with the staging of treacherous provocations, they want to put into practice their nefarious intentions inside Afghanistan.

Contrary to the false propaganda of the imperialists, Afghanistan witnessed the holding of plenums of party provincial committees. The resolutions of the 18th Plenum of the PDPA CC were unanimously supported by the party plenums throughout the country. Furthermore, the intentions of the organisers of the propaganda canard against Afghanistan are easily understandable. At present, the 7th round of talks between the DRA and Pakistan for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan are continuing and imperialism is bent upon torpedoing all the possibilities of reaching a political solution to the problem. However, the DRA with complete readiness for the political solution of the issues, will spare no effort for the success of the talks and such propaganda can not disrupt its intention.

Another aim of the recent propaganda is to divert the attention of the world public from the ever increasing unrest in Pakistan and the trembling pillars of the ruling regime of Pakistan as well as the incessant defeats of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries inside the country.

Politburo Assesses Constitution 'Work Process'

LD222114 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] A routine session of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo has been held. The work process of the DRA draft constitution was assessed and specific instructions were issued to the DRA Draft Constitution Commission.

The Politburo also assessed the results of discussions held by the broad plenums of the provincial party committees, and the decisions of the PDPA Central Committee's 17th and 18th Plenums. It was (?concluded) by the Politburo that the convocation of work plenums of the provincial party committees and the organs of the Armed Forces displays their struggle toward the unity of the party around the Central Committee, the unity of the party ranks, the enhancement of the level of discipline, the political vigilance of their members and the realization of the aims of the April Revolution.

The PDPA Central Committee Politburo also heard a report of the second nationwide session of the secretaries of the DRA Army party organizations. It was pointed out that raising the professional skill and political maturity of the troops and officers, their combat morale and further strengthening the Armed Forces with the people, are the immediate tasks of the Armed Forces command and political staff.

The Politburo evaluated the proposals and requests of a number of the state employees, workers, peasants and members of the Armed Forces that had been put forward during the meetings of Politburo members with the people in Kabul and the provinces.

A commission was instructed in this regard to prepare necessary documents concerning the roots of social [word indistinct], family and the role of the party and state approach in furthering the recruitment of youths so all patriotic youths could take an active part in this patriotic duty.

The Politburo heard a report by Comrade Dr Anahita Ratebzad, president of the DRA Peace, Friendship and Solidarity Organization and Politburo member, on her participation at the WPC [World Peace Council] meeting.

The session considered as positive the results achieved through the participation of the DRA delegation and its activity.

The Politburo also assessed some matters related to the improvement of work among the tribes and ethnic groups of the country and the improvement of attention to the betterment of the life of the toilers, and took necessary measures.

Measures Passed With Karmal's Approval

LD222206 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] After approval by Comrade Babrak Karmal, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, Presidium Decree No 107, dated 26 November 1985, concerning the seals of the executive committees of the jirgas and councils of major districts, subdistricts, villages and city wards; and Decree No 18 of 1985-86 concerning the DRA law of citizenship, were published in the official gazette, issues 605 and 606 of the current year.

Also approved by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrade Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, the bill on the utilization and safeguarding of the seals of the executive committees of the local jirgas and councils; the bill on the use of electric energy in the DRA; and the charter of Qandahar wool textile enterprise, were published in issue 107 of the official gazette.

Continuing Reportage on Unrest Incidents in Punjab

10 Killed, 4 Injured

BK220333 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] In Punjab 10 persons were killed and 4 injured when some suspected terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Krishnan Nagar area in Amritsar last night. Police and paramilitary forces immediatly cordoned off the area and lauched a massive hunt for the culprints.

In another incident, one person was killed when some unidentified gunmen fired at him in village Harpura near (Shri Hargovindpur) in Gurdaspur District last evening.

Bomb Thrown at Hindu Temple

BK221246 Hong Kong AFP in English 1240 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Amritsar, India, May 22 (AFP) — Suspected Sikh separatists bombed a Hindu temple here Thursday after 11 people had been killed in two separate shootings in the Punjab Wednesday, police and eyewitnesses said. A crude bomb was hurled at the Durgayana temple here sparking anger among the Hindus, India's religious majority, but a minority in this northern state, eyewitnesses said. No casualties were reported.

On Wednesday, suspected Sikh separatist groups shot dead 11 people in two separate sten gun attacks here and in the adjoining Gurdashpur District, police said Thursday.

Assailants came on foot and opened fire at Hindu traders killing 10 people on the city's outskirts. In the Gurdaspur incident, a suspected Sikh separatist group shot dead one person, police said. The killings triggered a massive hunt by police and paramilitary forces, but no arrests were reported.

Punjab Cheif Minister, Surjit Singh Barnala, arrived here from New Delhi to review the situation after Wednesday's slayings. He said the killings were a "planned action to frighten" Hindus so that they would flee the state. The PRESS TRUST of INDIA said Mr. Barnala had not ruled out the possibility of the army playing a role in attempts to curb Sikh militancy.

Reportage on Visit of SWAPO President Nujoma

Receives Ceremonial Welcome

BK221146 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The president of the South West African People's Organization — SWAPO — Mr Sam Nujoma, who arrived in New Delhi today, has pledged to intensify the liberation struggle in Namibia both at the military and political fronts. Referring to the recent air attacks on three Frontline States by the Pretoria regime, he said a war is being deliberately imposed on the people in southwest Africa through these barbaric acts.

Mr Nujoma, who is on a 6-day visit to the country, was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, his cabinet colleagues, members of diplomatic corps, and other diginitaries. Our correspondent reports that Mr Nujoma was given a ceremonial welcome which is accorded to a head of government. A guard of honor by the three contingents of Armed Forces was given to him.

Talking to newsmen at the airport, the SWAPO leader said that the honor of the ceremonial welcome which he received for the first time is indeed an honor done to the Namibian people. He expressed his deep appreciation and gratitude to the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the people of India for concrete material assistance and political and diplomatic support to the Namibian people.

Mr Nujoma said that the dastardly act perpetuated by the Pretoria regime on Frontline States is prompted by its perpetual fears. These fears are its own creation, as the racist regime is denying fundamental human rights to the African majority in Namibia and South Africa. The Botha regime feels that the Namibian people are being influenced from [as heard] the Frontline States. However, it forgets that the oppressed people have no other alternative but to resist the oppression.

The SWAPO leader during his stay in the capital is expected to have extensive discussions with the prime minister and other leaders on the developments in southern Africa. He will inaugurate the SWAPO chancery in New Delhi on Saturday. He will also take part in the Africa Day function on Sunday.

Holds Talks With Gandhi

BK221621 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The visiting president of the South West African People's Organization — SWAPO — Mr Sam Nujoma, and Mr Rajiv Gandhi today discussed South Africa's dealings with its neighbors and the latest situation in this region. He also exchanged views on the recent visit of the commonwealth eminent persons group to that country and the Namibia situation.

In the course of a 90-minute meeting, Mr Rajiv Gandhi briefed Mr Nujoma on recent trip to Africa's Frontline States. He reiterated India's full support to the Namibian freedom struggle.

Mr Nujoma referred to the stalemate in implementing the UN Security Council's resolution on Namibia. He discussed with Mr Gandhi the steps that the Nonaligned Movement would take to raise the matter forcefully at the United Nations and elsewhere, especially in the context of the coming nonaligned summit in Harare. Among other subjects, the two leaders discussed the formal opening of the SWAPO chancery in New Delhi by Mr Nujoma on Saturday.

Mr Nujoma also called on the vice president, Mr R. Venketaraman, at his residence. Mr Rajiv Gandhi is hosting a dinner in honor of Mr Nujoma tonight.

Visit by South African Legislators Banned

BK211619 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] India has decided to ban the entry of members of the colored and Asian legislators of South Africa, which formed part of the so-called constitutional reforms introduced by the racist regime in 1984. A government press release in New Delhi says this has been done as a measures of India's sympathy and support for all those struggling for an equitable and democratic regime in South Africa.

The press release points out that these legislators do not represent the colored or Asian communities in South Africa. Their participation in the sham exercise only serves to divide and weaken the struggle against apartheid.

It may be recalled that the South African regime introduced a tricameral legislature as part of the so-called constitutional reforms. These reforms totally excluded the majority from any form of political participation.

UN Supervisory Role in Afghanistan Proposed

BK220220 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1700 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Pakistan is reported to have proposed a supervisory role for the United Nations to ensure against any infringement or violation of the predicted agreement on the future of Afghanistan now being negotiated in Geneva.

APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS of PAKISTAN], quoting informed diplomatic sources, says the seventh round of indirect talks between Pakistan and the Kabul regime, now nearing the third week of almost continuous discussions, had drifted toward considerable uncertainty because of insistency by Kabul representatives that the implementation and supervision of the proposed agreement should be left to the two concerned countries.

Pakistan is understood to have described Kabul's situation as totally impractical and untenable and stressed that a third party supervising the authority was essential to settle disputes which might crop up during the period the projected agreement was being actually implemented. Pakistan says since the proposed agreement is being worked out under the aegis of the United Nations it would be better if the world body was also entrusted with the task of implementing this agreement.

The agency, quoting diplomatic observers, says the new hitch created by the representatives of the Kabul regime had fully established as to how harmful it would have been to Pakistan if Kabul's insistence on direct talks would have been acceded to. Support from securing the much fought for legitimacy for its role in the direct talks would have also enabled the Kabul regime to play all shots in accordance with their liking.

In spite of the very best efforts of the United Nation's mediator, Mr Diego Cordovez, the foreign minister of the Kabul regime has reportedly refused to discuss the much awaited timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops unless all the (?ground rules) for this discussion as laid out in the draft of the fourth instrument have been fully worked out by the two sides.

The current indirect talks, in the meantime, have remained suspended for the past 24 hours, indicating that differences between the two sides on certain principles of the fourth instrument were persisting.

Mr Cordovez, who had yesterday morning visited Pakistan's permanent mission for a private meeting with the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, came back late in the evening for another meeting. He again visited the Pakistan mission this morning to continue his intensive informal discussions with the Pakistan foreign minister. He is reported to have held similar meetings with the foreign minister of the Kabul regime. Mr Cordovez was expected to hold formal meetings separately with the full delegations of Pakistan and Kabul regime later tonight.

A spokesman of the Pakistan delegation (?confirmed) that so far no firm negotiations on the timeframe for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan had taken place. He said only a preliminary discussion on this topic had taken place between Pakistan's foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, and Mr Cordovez.

PRC Delegation Meets National Assembly Speaker

BK220353 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu
0200 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Chinese good-will delegation met the National Assembly speaker, Syed Fakr Imam, in Islamabad yesterday.

The vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the National People's Congress, Fu Hao, who is the leader of the delegation, said the border of Pakistan and China is a border of peace, friendship, and cooperation.

BANGLADESH

Doctors Defy Government Order To Return To Work

BK210604 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] In Bangladesh, doctors of eight medical colleges have defied a government order to end their indefinite strike.

About 3,000 doctors are on strike for higher wages and more jobs.

The government has issued an ultimatum on Saturday [17 May] giving the doctors 71 hours to return to work or face legal action.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene To Meet Indian High Commissioner

BK221135 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] President Jayewardene is to speak to the Indian high commissioner to clear up any misunderstanding relating to the current situation in the north. The Cabinet yesterday discussed certain statements made in New Delhi on the recent events in Jaffna.

Cabinet Spokesman Dr Ananda Tissa de Alwis briefing newsmen said that the minister of national security had explained that the terrorists were probably misreporting what is taking place in Jaffna.

Continuing Reportage on Tamil Situation, Incidents

'Terrorists' Open Eastern Flank

BK221133 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The northern terrorists under heavy military pressure in thier Jaffna strongholds earlier this week, were yesterday believed to be attempting renewed activity on the eastern flank in a possible effort to divert troops.

Three separate incidents were reported in Colombo yesterday — the killing of three soldiers in the Ampara district, the murder of several Sinhalese recently abducted from (Morowewa), and the blowing up of the plant in Tokyo cement factory in Trincomalee.

The National Security Ministry said the 3 soldiers had been killed and 4 more were injured when their detachment was attacked by about 100 strong terrorist band at (Tiriokulimale) in the Ampara District early yesterday.

A ministry spokesman also said that nine civilians, including four women, who were abducted at (Morowewa) some days ago had been killed.

TULF Leader Urges Action by India

NC221944 Paris AFP in English 1940 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Madras, India, May 22 (AFP) — The leader of Sri Lanka's biggest Tamil moderate party Thursday urged immediate action by India to stop a new offensive against Tamils in northern Sri Lanka. "Immediate action by India is the only way to stop killings of Tamils in the island," A. Amirthalingam, secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE here.

"India can exert greater pressure either by itself or through international organisations or by any other means to stop this genocide," Mr. Amirthalingam said. He was referring to five days of fierce fighting between Sri Lankan troops and Tamil militants in the Jaffna Peninsula which has left at least 34 people dead and 75 wounded, according to reports from Jaffna residents. Mr. Amrithalingam said that more than 100 civilians had been killed since the fighting started Saturday.

Tamil militants in this southern Indian city — supported by the 50 million ethnic Tamils in India — have described the army operation as the "final offensive" against Tamils in Jaffna, but the Sri Lankan Government has denied press reports of aerial bombing and civilian deaths. Mr. Amirthalingam said the Sri Lankan denial was an "outrageous falsehood." "We have incontrovertible proof that the Sri Lanka Air Force bombed the hospital in Jaffna on three consecutive days, destroying five wards and a number of shops and business establishments in the vicinity," he added. "The attack on civilians has clearly demonstrated that the Sri Lankan Government is determined to suppress, subjugate and annihilate Tamils."

Militants among Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are campaigning for greater autonomy in the north and east of the country, alleging discrimination by the Sinhalese majority. India has been acting as mediator in negotiations to try to bring about a political solution to the problem.

TULF Criticizes LTTE

BK221137 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF], A. Amirthalingam, has castigated the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] for acting most cruelly and turning against its own brothers in Sri Lanka. The statement was made by Mr Amirthalingam in [words indistinct]. It was his personal view that the militants must learn from experience that their action will not help, what he referred to, as a Tamil cause. He said that the crisis between the LTTE and TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization] had enabled the army to move with greater (?ease) along Jaffna, whereas previously [words indistinct].

The statement says that the TULF would consider any suggestion from India, giving the Indian Government the authority to be a negotiator for the Tamils in the search for a quick solution to the problems in Sri Lanka. However, Mr Amirthalingam said that the TULF Politburo will have to ratify the stand, although it will be considered (?favorably).

87 Killed, 200 Injured in Jaffna

BK230915 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka at least 87 people, mostly civilians, have died so far and 200 injured since the security forces launched their multi-pronged offensive last Saturday on Jaffna Peninsula.

At least five civilians were killed in strafing and bombing last night and four fishermen perished in helicopter fire off the coast of Jaffna. Helicopters strafed at least five towns in the peninsula since last evening.

Civilian traffic to and from the peninsula has almost come to a standstill and it is on the verge of virtual siege.

Severe food shortage has been reported from the group of seven islands including Kayts and Nayinativu off the Jaffna coast.

As civilian casualties and the sufferings mounted with an undeclared war in the peninsula reaching its 7th day today, pitched battles were reported from many sectors between the security forces and the militants.

Elephant Pass and the Kayts sectors reported heavy battle, while other reports indicate that the security forces column is working its way toward Point Pedro along the coast under air cover.

Helicopter strafing continued in Jaffna town where seven injured were admitted to hospital.

Fierce battle continued at (Kaptaikadu), 8 miles north of Elephant Pass, between the security forces and the militants as a 500-strong Army column tried to make its way northward.

The security forces were also seen ferrying men from Jaffna Port toward Mullaitivu in an apparent attempt to establish a camp somewhere there. They have also taken over an aluminum factory at (Allaipatty), 3½ miles from Jaffna port, and are being opposed by the militants.

Kayts, Nayinativu, and other four islands of the peninsula have been cut off from the mainland since the past 6 days because of military occupation. People are starving there for want of provisions.

So far at least 75 people, majority of them civilians, have perished in the operation which started on Saturday last.

More Air Attacks in Jaffna

BK221609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] In Sri Lanka, violence engulfed Jaffna Peninsula again today as 8 civilians, including 2 women and 2 children, were killed and 10 injured when two Air Force planes and four helicopters bombed and strafed two fishing villages near Point Pedro this morning. A minibus carrying passengers was almost directly hit and four persons died on the spot.

Bombing of Jaffna Continues

BK230334 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Reports from Sri Lanka say Jaffna was again subjected to aerial attacks last night. The bombing was accompanied by intense shelling from the Jaffna Fort.

According to the residents of the area, the bombing was indiscriminate, and thickly populated parts were strafed. The attack continued for about 1½ hours. They told our correspondent that it is not possible to estimate immediately the casualties or the damage. However, a part of the building of a Jaffna Tamil daily (?*EELAMNADU*) has been damaged.

Meanwhile, the Velvettiturai citizens committee and the Point Pedro citizens committee have complained to the government agents in their areas about the aerial attacks and naval shelling.

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayers Meeting

LD231234 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] On the eve of International Jerusalem Day, the religious-political Friday prayer ceremonies were observed today in most parts of the country with the participation of millions of our Muslim compatriots. Our correspondents report from various parts of the country that the participants in the Friday prayers shouted the slogan "war, war till victory!" and demanded that the battle with the aggressive enemy be continued until the achievement of final victory.

The report says that the citizens of Tehran with their presence at Tehran University and the neighboring thoroughfares also performed the Friday prayers ceremonies under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. At today's Tehran Friday prayers Hojjat ol-Eslam val Moslemin Khamene'i described the conquest of Khorramshahr and of Al-Faw in Iraq.

Drawing a parallel between two important events of the imposed war he said: These two events are similar in many ways because, when our combatants liberated Khorramshshr and captured more than 15,000 Iraqi troops, the world could not believe it. Now that the selfless warriors of the army of Islam have courageously crossed the Shatt al-'Arab and delivered such a bewildering blow against the Iraqi regime the world is stunned and bewildered by it. But both events reflect the moral and military weakness of the Iraqi forces; the Iraqi leaders' hand has become known to their backers with those two events; and the world has now realized that the Iraqi regime is a liar and that power rests with the Islamic forces.

The Friday imam of Tehran went on: After realizing that despite bringing enormous pressure to bear by land, sea and air the Iraqis could achieve nothing, could not break the solid line of our combatants in Al-Faw or drive them back, they thought it would be better to leave Al-Faw alone for a while and to think of something else. So they selected three sectors of the battlefield so that, with a lot of empty propaganda and ballyhoo, they could relieve their anxious backers.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council then described the positions in Faqqeh, Mehran and Hajj 'Umran. He said: Having gathered a large force the Iraqis went on the rampage in the Faqqeh region in an effort to capture the heights there. But right at the very first stage they suffered a severe blow in terms of equipment and were forced to retreat, leaving behind a large quantity of equipment, for which they had spent enormous amounts of money, as they fled in the face of the forces of Islam. In the Mehran region, with the plans they had devised, they were able to advance a few steps and capture the Mehran plain. But from the military standpoint the plain is worthless without the heights. Their plan to capture the heights failed, and the latest reports say that the Iraqi forces have now retreated even from the plain.

The Friday imam of Tehran went on: In the Hajj 'Umran region, too, where the Iraqi regime was using all its power in an effort to advance, it failed totally. The large number of Iraqi helicopters shot down proves the importance of the region. Here, too, Iraq was forced to retreat, suffering great losses in equipment and in numbersof dead and wounded and troops taken prisoner. This very day some 70 Iraqi servicemen and officers sought asylum and thus delivered themselves from Saddam's wickedness.

The president then turned to propaganda put about by the Iraqi regime and global arrogance. About exchanging Al-Faw for Mehran, he said: This is the most laughable thing that a regime can say. There is no comparison between the strategic Al-Faw and the little town of Mehran. Al-Faw was an important Iraqi port and a town linking Iraq to the sea and a number of Arab states.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council went on: Praise be to God, we are today in a position of strength both from the political and military aspects, and our people's readiness is a factor of the Islamic Republic's success and of fear on the part of our enemies. We should continue to maintain this readiness and continue the blows we have struck at the Iraqi regime through Al-Faw because that regime has no more strength to resist.

Commentary on Egypt, Jordan Troops in Mehran Area

LD221252 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 22 May 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. On the basis of Central News Unit correspondents reports from Ilam and Bakhtaran, some units of the Egyptian and Jordanian Armed Forces took part in the attack on our Islamic homeland in the Mehran operational theater. It is now only 2 weeks before International Jerusalem Day, so what is the objective of Egyptian and Jordanian military units taking part in the attack against the Islamic city of Mehran? One can understand the meaning of this joint action by Egypt and Jordan if one recalls that these two states joined hands with Israel, handed over Bayt al-Muqaddas to the Zionist enemy, disgraced the Arab nation and betrayed the Islamic ummah. Of course, after the first victorious moments of the Islamic revolution, Egypt and Jordan, leaders of Arab reaction, felt the greater danger as the main supporting pole of colonialism's tent in the region. By provoking Iraq's armed forces to attack the Islamic Republic of Iran on 22 September 1980 they placed their assistance at the disposal of this aggressive regime. The Sudanese armed forces were also directly involved during Numayri's era in supporting the Iraqi regime's aggression against the Islamic homeland of Iran. Apparently that support and involvement ended with Numayri's collapse!

However, today, on the eve of International Jerusalem Day as the Islamic world is preparing itself for the historic ceremonies of this day, the Egyptian and Jordanian forces have joined Iraq. Why are these jackbooted Egyptian and Jordanian forces firing at the chests of Iranian Muslim youths instead of aiming their rifles at the Zionist occupiers? Why are they moving toward Mehran instead of marching toward Bayt al-Muqaddas, the Ghaza strip, Ramallah and Al-Khalij? Why are they supporting Israel's allies instead of supporting the charter of the Islamic pledge to fight for the liberation of Palestine? Why are they sacrificing themselves for the success of Camp David accords, when even its name is Zionist?

The attack by Egyptian and Jordanian soldiers on such operational sectors as Mehran, on the eve of International Jerusalem Day, demonstrates the fact that the movement of the Iranian nation is right and justified. As the imam of the ummah has graciously said: The way to Jerusalem passes through Karbala'. Without the overthrow of the U.S. puppet regimes and those of global Zionism, that is, the regimes of Iraq, Jordan and Egypt, the Muslims will never have freedom, the nation of Palestine will not witness liberation, and Bayt al-Muqaddas will never see the happy day of victory.

Foreign Ministry: Charges Against UN Envoy Ludicrous

LD221738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Following the allegations made by U.S. police against Raja'i-Khorassani, Iran's representative to the United Nations, and the extensive propaganda conducted by the Western mass media against him, the spokesman of our country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated:

We have, for some time now, been receiving documented reports that the espionage organization of the United States, the CIA, intends to use certain projects aimed at harming the reputation of the Islamic Republic of Iran's representatives in various countries throughout the world. This project took the form of accusing the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran of terrorism and of arms smuggling, a topic which in the past has been subjected to extensive propaganda with the assistance of counterrevolutionary mercenaries and through Zionist-affiliated media. But as these accusations kept being repeated in the same form, they lost their effectiveness.

The latest form of the CIA's conspiracy aimed at harming the reputation of the Islamic Republic of Iran's representatives is the ludicrous and dirty propoganda accusing the representative of Iran to the United Nations of stealing, which happened after the United States failed in its efforts to contact him for the purpose of softening his stances against the United States in the United Nations.

The spokesman of the Foreign Ministry added: Although the United States has formulated and implemented many plots in the political military and propaganda fields against the Islamic Republic of Iran, which fortunately have failed to yield any results, the latest plot is actually a reflection of the height of America's desperation in the face of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Deputy Foreign Minister Leaves for UN Session

LD222117 Tehran IRNA in English 1720 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — A political delegation headed by Deputy foreign Minister for International and Economic Affairs Mohammad-Javad Larijani left here Thursday for New York to participate in the extraordinary session of General Assembly of the United Nations.

The May 27-31 session is scheduled to study Africa's economic crisis. Poor economic conditions in Africa has been recently intensified by problems such as foreign debts and famine. In her foreign policy, the Islamic Republic of Iran pays special attention to issues of the African continent.

Further Reportage on Rahmani Visit to Libya

Meets With Military Officers

LD221534 Tehran IRNA in English 1442 GMT 22 May 86

[Excerpt] Tripoli, May 22, IRNA — Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani, head of the Basij unit of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC), Thursday met Colonel Faraj, the Libyan ground forces commander and a group of high ranking military officers in Tripoli. The two sides discussed cooperatin in mobilization and training of the volunteer forces as well as the exchange of experiences in this regard.

Further Reportage on Mo'ayeri Visit to France

Meets With French Assembly Leader

LD220255 Tehran IRNA in English 1857 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 21, IRNA — Visiting Iranian Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri here Wednesday hand delivered a message from speaker of Iran's Majlis (parliament) Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani to his French counterpart Jacques Chaban Delmas.

During the meeting the deputy prime minister talked on existing difficulties in Irano-French relations and discussed ways of removing them as well as their expansion. Tehran-Paris relations have been strained over French military support for Iraq in the war as well as a disputed repayment to Iran of a one-billion dollar loan and Paris backing for Iranian terrorist and emigre groups in France.

President of the French National Assembly Mr. Delmas thanked Mr. Mo'ayeri for the message and expressed hope that ties would expand and parlimentarians of the two countries would visit each other's country.

Officials from Iran's Foreign Ministry, Iran's charge d'affaires to Paris Gholam Reza Haddadian and his counterpart to Tehran Pierre LaFrance were also present in the meeting.

Talks Held in 'Friendly Atmosphere'

LD222222 Tehran IRNA in English 1906 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Paris, May 22, IRNA — Ongoing talks between Iranian and French officials in Paris has progressed well in a friendly atmosphere with the Islamic Republic calling on the Paris government to end support for Iraq and repay its loans. The highest Iranian official to visit Paris since the 1979 Islamic revolution told reporters here Thursday that Tehran believed there was a change of view in Paris since a new cabinet had come to power there.

Deputy Foreign Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri said "We feel (French Prime Minister) Mr. Chirac gives particular attention to Iran's strategic position in the region." "We have seen moves that indicate issues can be solved as soon as possible" he said. "Current talks have been conducted in a friendly atmosphere and with understanding."

Mo'ayeri's visit has been viewed as a breakthrough in relations between the two countries that has been strained since the 1979 Islamic revolution. Iran has repeatedly demanded that France should end its military support for Iraq as well as Iranian terrorist organizations in Paris and pay back its one billion dollar. [as received] There was a change of tone in relations between the two countries after two high ranking delegation from the French parliament and Foreign Ministry visited Iran in January and April. "France must prove its neutrality in the imposed Iraqi war and we hope that it will restrain itself from exporting new weapons to Iraq", Mo'ayeri said. France is one of the biggest suppliers of arms to the Iraq that has been at war with Iran for the past five and half years.

On the question of the repayment of a one billion dollar loan to Iran, Mo'ayeri said France should repay the loan with setting any conditions. The loan was given to France by the former Iranian regime for construction work in the French atomic industry. France has since refused to pay back the money.

Referring to the presence of Iranian terror organizations in Paris, Mo'ayeri said he has discussed the issue with French official. "Public opinion in Iran can not accept that people who have killed their children or their political leaders be accepted in France". Members of the terrorist organizations, including the Monafeqin Khalq, fled to Paris after starting a series of bombings and assassinations across Iran that has left hundreds of civilians martyred.

In his three-day visit, Mo'ayeri has held talks with senior officials including the prime minister and members of his cabinet. He was given a red carpet welcome on arrival in Paris that included lines of sabre-carrying republican guards. France became popular with Iranian public opinion when it accepted Imam Khomeyni, leader of the Islamic revolution, at the height of the anti-shah revolution.

Meets Foreign Ministry Officials

GF230510 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Mr Mo'ayeri, the political deputy of our country's prime minister, continued his visit to France with a meeting yesterday afternoon with French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond. He gave the French minister a written message from his Iranian counterpart, Mr Velayati. Other high political officials of the French Foreign Ministry also attended the meeting. They discussed bilateral relations and the imposed war.

Yesterday afternoon, the political deputy of the Iranian prime minister also met Mr (Jean Le Canoet), the head of the French National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Commission. They discussed bilateral relations and the political situation in the region, as well as U.S. threats against Islamic countries, especially Libya and Syria.

Tehran Turkish on Iraqi Measures to Stem Desertions

GF221348 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] The telephone conversations and the travels of Iraqi troops and officers are now being closely controlled due to the dimension of desertions from the battlefronts. A correspondent of the news agency affiliated to the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq has reported from Al-Faw that in an order it issued to the security forces of the Shatt al-'Arab region, the military command in the Al-Basra region demanded that telephone conversations and the travels of unreliable army personnel, particularly the Muslim Kurdish troops, be controlled.

It should be recalled that the activities of the Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries recently have been stepped up, particularly in northern Iraq. Dahuk Province is currently under the siege of the revolutionary Muslims.

Navy Chief Says Training Facilities Improved

LD222301 Tehran IRNA in English 1804 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Navy commander Captain Hoseyn Malekzadegan said here Thursday that the Islamic Republic of Iran has advanced in training its own navy officers. Addressing officers in the opening ceremony of the Kuhak barracks he said "Before the 1979 Islamic revolution, Iranian Navy was completely dependent on foreign countries for training of its officers." But after revolution, he added, "We have taken steps in training them inside the country. In this regard, the northern training center was activated with twenty courses."

The Islamic Republic of Iran calls for a non-aligned policy that would free its military, political and industrial organizations from dependence on foreign countries.

This center trains 1200 students for navy each year and also for the other organs of the country, he added. He also said "We train our officers in marine sciences training center of (Nowshahr) which recently started its fifth curriculum."

Tehran Turkish: Final Blow to Iraq Planned

GF221642 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 21 May 86

[Unattributed commentary: "As Defeated Experiences Are Repeated"]

[Text] Dear listeners. The military effectiveness of the achievements in the "Val-Fajr-8" operation is gradually gaining broader dimensions. Relying on the military and material aid it received from the imperialist West and the puppet regimes in the region, and on the presence of experts in various fields, the Iraqi regime, prior to the "Val-Fajr-8" operation, had said that the Iraqi fronts made up a strong, impregnable castle. Judging by the military might at the disposal of the Iraqi regime, international imperialism believed this. All this moved them to increase the pressure brought to bear on the Islamic Republic of Iran and further increase the aid given to the Iraqi regime with a view to preventing the achievement of victory by one of the sides in the Persian Gulf war.

However, the liberation of Al-Faw, which is a strategic port city, meant the destruction of the strong castle the Iraqi regime believed was impregnable. Western experts remained bewildered for a long time by the liberation of the castle which the experts of the United States and the Zionist regime believed to be impenetrable. After an assessment of Iran's military power, Western media organs linked Iran's might to the surprise attack of the Iranian forces, the use of a large number of men, and the unprecedented resistance on the part of the Iranian forces. Nevertheless, during the past 2 weeks the imperialists have been persistently trying to present the defeat suffered by Iraq as insignificant in order to raise the morale of the Iraqi troops.

The effort made by Western circles to present the liberation of Al-Faw as insignificant, the propaganda on the dispatching of modern arms to Iraq, the lowering of oil prices, and the U.S. threats in the military, political, and economic fields are related to the same imperialist objective. They are all designed to lessen the effects of the victories achieved by Iran during the "Val-Fajr-8" operations. Heeding recommendations made by military experts from the West, including those affiliated with the puppet regimes in the region, the Iraqi regime recently employed tactics already tested in the past. Its use of such tactics, which resulted in many defeats, has proved that the Iraqi regime cooperates very closely with the imperialists. However, the direction they have chosen will bring about their fall at a quicker pace through the consecutive defeats they will suffer.

The wide-ranging attack the Iraqi regime launched last week with an unprecedented variety of military hardware has resulted in a complete defeat. Many Iraqi officers and men were either killed or wounded, in addition to an innumerable number of tanks and helicopters destroyed. The defeats suffered by the Iraqi regime in [words indistinct], Mehran, [words indistinct], and Hajj 'Umran regions came with heavy losses. The outcome of all the effort made was empty propaganda and premature congratulations.

Undoubtedly, this untimely attack placed the Iraqi regime's forces in a very difficult position. The absence of adequate manpower, which the Iraqi regime's forces have been suffering from for a long time, has become serious due to these latest attacks. On the other hand, the movement of volunteer groups in Iran toward the battlefronts within the Karbala' convoys is continuing. Apart from this, the Islamic forces have the strength required to defeat the military moves of the Iraqi forces in all sectors of the battlefronts and at all times. The chaos created among the ranks of the Iraqi regime's forces because of their latest attacks has given an opportunity to the Islamic fighters to deal the final blow. The latest defeat suffered by the Iraqi regime not only has had a negative effect on the Iraqi troops but also crushed the confidence the supporters of that regime had in the Iraqi Armed Forces.

With the great success it has achieved in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations, and due to the latest defeat suffered by the Iraqi regime, the Islamic Republic of Iran is now capable of dealing the final blow. When the time comes, the Islamic Republic of Iran will be ready to teach a lesson to international imperialism and to the puppet regimes in the region — a lesson which they will not forget. This may be the final warning. In the event of such a state of affairs, they will not be able to use their past experiences again.

All the attempts made to prevent final defeat will sooner or later end up in the defeat of international imperialism and the Iraqi regime once again. This is due to the fact that there is a force that determines the outcome of [words indistinct] — that is the faith of the Muslim Iranian people which does not exist in the Iraqi regime's forces and which international imperialism cannot understand.

12 Iraqi VIII Army Corps Officers Executed

LD220318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] According to a report of the Central News Unit, 12 officers — captains and majors — belonging to the Iraqi VIII Army Corps in the Al-Faw operational sector were hanged because they opposed their commanders. Reports received from Iraq state: The increase in opposition by the Iraqi military is intensifying day by day.

According to this same report, all the officers of the central intelligence unit of the Iraqi VII Army Corps have been arrested because they failed to gain advance knowledge of the attack of the combatants of Islam on Al-Faw. This is occuring at a time when the Iraqi VII Army Corps has already changed commanders several times following the start of the "Val-Fajr-8" offensive.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraqi Commando Offensive Halted

LD221240 Tehran IRNA in English 1138 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Ahvaz, May 22, IRNA — Iraqi commandos from the fourth corps stationed in Faqqeh region suffered heavy casualties when their attempted advance in the region failed and Iran's Muslim combatants went on the offensive. The "last of the 'Abi-Abidah' commandos were destroyed or forced to retreat from the area," a military source said here Thursday. The Iraqi attack had come with support from mechanized units from the first and tenth divisions and aimed at capturing heights overlooking the region.

Iran's artillery units gave a distinguished performance in halting Iraqi tanks and personnel carriers during the battle. The source said: "This has been a lesson for the enemy not to dream about attacking Islamic forces again."

The new battlefield arrangement puts Iraqi positions west of Chazabeh in the Sha'eb pass under direct Iranian shelling. Earlier this month Iraqi troops advanced in the area. The troops included units of the Abi-Abidah commando unit plus supporting units from the third and sixth corps.

Faqqeh was first captured by Iraqi forces in their initial offensive on Iran in September 1980 when they bypassed the town and went west towards the cities of Shush and Dezful. The region fell into Iranian hands in the 1982 Fath al-Mubin offensive when large sections of the southern Khuzestan Province was purged of the Iraqi army. Faqqeh is between the heights of Reqabeyeh and Abu-Qurayb. The heights of Shamkali and Sheykh-Qandi are to its north.

War between the two countries started when Iraqi leadership took advantage of Iran's post revolutionary chaos and sought to extend its coast line with the Persian Gulf by annexing parts of southern Iran.

Iraq Shells Residential Area

LD221437 Tehran IRNA in English 1413 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Iraqi artillery Wednesday shelled residential areas of Nowdesheh in Bakhtaran Province, martyring and wounding 10 people. The shelling took place at 13:30 (10:00 GMT) and left three martyrs and seven wounded.

Despite a U.N. sponsored agreement between the two warring countries in June 1984 on restraint in bombardment of residential areas, Iraq has been raiding civilian targets.

Iraqis Flee Faqqeh

LD221801 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] The Khatam ol-Anbiya' headquarters, the joint operational center for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces, noting the recent victories by the warriors of Islam in the Faqqeh operational zone, has issued a communique:

Following the recent offensives in the Faqqeh operational zone by the forces of the Ba'thist-Zionist regime in Iraq, the Islamic forces, carrying out advanced tactical movements and executing intense heavy weaponry fire, last night, made the Ba'thist enemy flee the operational zone. The enemy had been completely beseiged. In the process of pushing back the enemy, many kilometers of the occupied areas near Faqqeh were cleansed of the filth of the defeated Ba'thist elements. Also, during the ensuing chase of enemy forces, the Islamic forces succeeded in pushing the infidel forces of Saddam tens of kilometers beyond their previous positions, so much so that the enemy is now stationed on its own territory opposite Faqqeh.

During the engagements last night and this morning, the Islamic forces hoisted the green flag of Muhammadan Islam throughout the 390 kilometers of the strategic region of Faqqeh where they have been positioned. The valiant forces of Islam's army, in the course of repelling the Iraqi forces, inflicted heavy casualties on 1st Mechanized, 34th Armored, 27th Mechanized and 57th Mixed Brigades of the First Army Corps of the defeated Iraqi Armed Forces. They killed or injured more than 2,000 enemy forces, destroying or capturing intact a large quantity of enemy equipment.

Communique No 2,478

LD221947 Tehran IRNA in English 1925 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 22, IRNA — Iran's jet fighters bombarded armoured and infantry positions of the Iraqi Army in Mehran at 05:05 and 16:40 hours local time (0135 and 1310 GMT) Thursday. After inflicting heavy casualties and damages, Iranian bomber fighters returned to their bases safely, according to a military communique Thursday.

The Communique Number 2478 of the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces said that Iranian Muslim combatants shelled Wednesday Iraqi bunkers in northwestern fronts killing and wounding Iraqi soldiers. It added that some 30 tanks and personnel carriers of the enemy were destroyed and a munitions depot set ablaze.

In western operational regions, the communique said, Muslim fighters of Iran downed two Iraqi copters and destroyed five bunkers and observation posts as well as several vehicles of the defeated enemy, killing or wounding numerous Iraqi troops.

In Mehran, the Iranian Muslim combatants prevented Iraqi movements in heights of Zalvaab and Ganjan-cham, inflicting considerable losses and damage on the enemy, according to the Joint Staff.

The communique said that the Muslim combatants of Iran checked and shelled Iraqi movements of vehicle columns throughout northwestern, western and southern operational regions as a result of which heavy losses and damage were inflicted on Ba'thist forces.

In Dehloran fronts, Iran's Gendarmerie forces sent patrol units, established observation posts and shelled Iraqi positions as a result of which enemy sustained damage and casualties, according to the communique. Meanwhile, the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, was subjected to Iraqi long-range artillery fire.

Heights Captured; Helicopters Downed

LD231157 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] According to a report from the Khatam ol-Anbiya' Headquarters joint operational center for the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Islamic Republic of Iran Armed Forces (IRI), in the wake of shining victories by the warriors of Islam in various operational zones, particularly those of Faqqeh and Hajj 'Umran, last night and this morning, the Islamic combatants attacking the positions of the Zionist forces of the Iraqi regime, succeeded in capturing and hoisting the green flag of the Mohammadan Army over difficult and strategic terrain of Heights 2435, situated 15 km inside Iraqi territory and beyond the Hajj 'Umran operational zone.

Further, the Islamic warriors, during the same operations, succeeded in wiping out a large number of the Zionist enemy personnel, killing or injuring more than 800, and capturing others, out of whom 70 asked for asylum from the IRI.

Two enemy helicopters were targeted and downed by the Islamic warriors, thus increasing the total figure of downed helicopters of the Zionist enemy in this operational zone since the beginning of the recent engagements a few days ago to 34.

During the operations last night and early this morning, a large quantity of the enemy's equipment and light and heavy hardware were either destroyed or captured intact by the Islamic combatants.

The defendents of the Islamic Revolution now are positioned throughout the operational zone of Hajj 'Umran and the posi tions liberated during the past few days, and have total control over any movement by the Zionist enemy.

Tehran: Moscow Controls DRA Media Programming

LD221714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 May 86

[Text] Afghanistan's television has become a part of a radio and television organization under the supervision of the USSR. Therefore, the Soviet Government from now on will be in full control of the radio and television programs of Afghanistan. With this project, programs that will be prepared in Moscow will be relayed via satellite throughout Afghanistan. In order to advance this project, up to now six television transmitter stations have been set up in Ghazni, Jalalabad, Qandahar, Herat and Badakhshan. IRNA, which reported this, adds: At present, the programs of Afghanistan's television are prepared in Kabul and are then relayed via satellite to Moscow for approval.

Correction to Opposition Criticism of U.S. Policy

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Opposition Paper Criticizes U.S. Policy Towards Regime," published in the 22 May South Asia *DAILY REPORT*, page I 7, paragraph three, from line 4:

...and they have not heard a single roar against them. All preliminaries about... (adding word "not")

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 MAY 1986

Israel

Thatcher Visit — Commenting on the results of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's 24-27 May visit to Israel, IDF radio said the major achievement is her consent to serve as a link between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Arab leaders, notably Jordanian King Husayn. Thatcher stated in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem television that her talks with Peres were "excellent and very constructive," noting that their discussions were part of a continuous process of seeking negotiations on the Middle East problem and that she will meet with King Husayn when he visits London in 3 weeks time.

Thatcher also met with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin who gave an "unequivocal and negative" reply to her proposal for free local elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, IDF radio reported, citing Rabin's statement that it would be "very strange" if the first free mayoral elections in the Arab world were held in the territories. In a banquet speech broadcast by Jerusalem radio, Thatcher urged Israel to do more to help the Palestinians play a greater role in managing their own affairs, stressing that the current situation in the occupied territories "can only be temporary" and that "practical steps" could be taken now as a prelude to an eventual settlement. Before concluding her visit, Thatcher also met with Palestinian dignitaries from the West Bank and Gaza who gave her a petition urging Britain to talk with the PLO, the radio reported. However, Thatcher stated at a news conference broadcast by the radio before her departure that the PLO's failure to recognize Israel and renounce terrorism makes it necessary to find "other Palestinian representatives who truly represent the Palestinian people." "We must consider an alternative" to the PLO, she said, adding that negotiations between King Husayn and Israel are impossible unless the latter is accompanied by people who are accepted as representing the Palestinian people. As for her forthcoming talks with Husayn, Thatcher said "we will have a lot to talk about" as a result of her visit to Israel.

Among the Arab commentaries criticizing Thatcher's visit, Damascus radio's Palestine broadcast urged Palestinians to refuse to meet with her, warning that those who do so will be viewed as "agents" and will only have themselves to blame when the Palestinian revolution carries out "the people's sentences" against them. Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, however, stressed that the Palestinians meeting Thatcher would reaffirm their support for the PLO as their sole and legitimate representative. A PLO military spokesman cited by the radio claimed that a PLO combat group was responsible for planting three bombs which exploded in the Tel Aviv area 25 May. IDF radio confirmed that explosions took place in Ashqelon and Kefar Sava, noting that one person was slightly injured.

'Senior Official' Affair — The Inner Cabinet's failure to suspend a senior official who is under investigation for serious crimes has caused a "Constitutional crisis," *THE JERUSALEM POST* reported 26 May. The official in question is Shin Bet chief Avraham Shalom, according to a U.S. television report cited by Jerusalem radio, which said the attorney general has concluded that Shalom and other Shin Bet officials should be charged with covering up the truth during investigations into the death of two terrorists who died in the custody of security forces 2 years ago. However, the Inner Cabinet has decided that launching an investigation into the affair will cause security damage, the radio subsequently disclosed, and Shalom is continuing in office for the time being.

Tabah Dispute — Israel has rejected a U.S. request to accept Egypt's formulation of the question to be presented to arbitrators on the Tabah issue, Jerusalem radio announced 25 May. Nevertheless, Egyptian sources cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST* stated that an end to the deadlock is "very close," indicating that Egypt has moved toward accepting one of the U.S. compromise proposals.

Syrian, Jordanian Diplomacy

Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad arrived in Greece 26 May at the start of an "official and cordial visit" aimed at promoting bilateral relations, Damascus radio reported, noting that the Syrian leader was "warmly welcomed" by Greek leaders. At a banquet speech broadcast by Damascus television, Al-Asad told his hosts that the U.S. "aggression" against Libya is a "serious phenomenon," adding that the United States and Israel will be "losing their senses" if they believe such methods will curb terrorism. Athens radio said Al-Asad will remain in Greece until 30 May and will discuss bilateral and international issues in talks with the president and prime minister.

In an earlier development, President al-Asad received Jordan's King Husayn in Damascus 24 May for talks on Mideast developments, according to Damascus radio. Amman radio said the Syrian and Jordanian leaders discussed the current Arab situation and bilateral relations, while an "informed source" cited by Radio Monte Carlo's Damascus correspondent described the meeting as "extremely important." After returning to Amman, King Husayn visited Baghdad 26 May for talks with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Amman radio noted. Radio Monte Carlo reports from Amman viewed Husayn's talks with Al-Asad and Saddam Husayn as part of an attempt to ease Syrian-Iraqi tension, and QNA subsequently cited a Kuwaiti press report that King Husayn succeeded in persuading the Syrian and Iraqi presidents to agree to hold a summit meeting in Amman after 'Id al-Fitr. In Israel, "very reliable sources" cited by *THE JERUSALEM POST* contended that King Husayn's visit to Damascus was aimed at further isolating PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, asserting that Husayn's mediation between Syria and Iraq is intended to cut Iraqi support for 'Arafat.

As for Syrian-PLO relations, Egypt's *AL-AHRAM* stated that the Palestinian leadership possesses "full details" of a Syrian plot to assassinate 'Arafat, MENA reported.

In a separate development, Moscow radio announced that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam will begin a working visit to the Soviet Union 27 May. Meanwhile, a Soviet official told KUNA that the United States will face "very grave consequences" if it or Israel strikes at Syria, warning that the Soviet Union will stand by Syria militarily and politically in the event of a U.S. or Israeli attack.

Libya

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev held talks with Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud in the Kremlin 27 May, TASS reported, noting that Jallud arrived in Moscow the previous day on a working visit. "Well-informed" Arab diplomatic sources cited by the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* claimed that Jallud's visit may result in an agreement on Libya's membership in the Warsaw Pact. In another report, "diplomatic sources" cited by the paper asserted that Jallud will sign a "huge" arms deal while in Moscow in response to the U.S. "aggression" against Libya, according to QNA. The paper disclosed that talks on such a deal took place during Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's last visit to Moscow, but were later discontinued.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that Jallud and the head of Libyan intelligence are heading an operation collecting intelligence information "in preparation for attacks" on Israeli and U.S. targets in Europe.

Iran-Iraq War

Fighting in Hajj 'Umran, Mehran — An Iranian military report cited by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian troops advanced beyond Hajj 'Umran 15 km inside northern Iraq 22-23 May, killing or wounding over 800 Iraqis and downing two helicopters. On the other hand, an Iraqi communique asserted that Iraq's V Army Corps crushed an Iranian attack in the same sector 23 May. The communique also said that "confirmed" Iranian losses from the Iraqi thrust in the Mehran sector had reached 2,500 dead. Iraqi commanders cited by Voice of the Masses radio stated that Iraqi forces have occupied 290 sq km in the area and that they control Mehran and surrounding villages and mountains. Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i acknowledged in a Friday sermon reported by Tehran radio that the Iraqis had managed to "advance a few steps and capture the Mehran plain," but he rejected any notion of exchanging Mehran for Al-Faw, saying this is "most laughable" as there is "no comparison between the strategic Al-Faw and the little town of Mehran."

Air Attacks — An Iraqi communique carried by Voice of the Masses announced that Iraqi planes raided Khark Island 25 May and hit a large maritime target in the Gulf late the previous night. An oil-laden Cypriot-registered tanker was hit and set on fire in the Iraqi attacks, according to a salvage company spokesman cited by AFP. Other Iraqi communiques broadcast by Voice of the Masses reported Iraqi raids on oil pumping stations 24 May and on Iranian military camps 26 May, acknowledging the loss of one Iraqi plane over Iran 26 May due to "technical reasons."

Iranian planes also raided Iraqi targets, according to military reports by Tehran radio and IRNA, which announced raids on military targets in Rawanduz 23 and 25 May, an attack on an Iraqi command center near Al-Kumayt 26 May, and raids on Iraqi power stations in Darband-i Khan and the Dukan area 25 and 27 May. IRNA claimed that Iraqi planes dropped chemical bombs in raids on the Mehran area.

Jordan

The opposition Jordanian National Movement issued a statement in Beirut accusing the Jordanian secret police of arresting and torturing soldiers who refused to carry out orders "to kill the sons of our people," AFP reported. The statement linked the purge with the recent unrest at Yarmuk University.

Egypt

The Supreme State Security Court sentenced 34 persons to jail terms of 1-3 years on charges relating to their involvement in a communist organization, MENA revealed 24 May. Charges that the defendants had formed a communist party were not proven, the court noted, but the defendants were punished in light of "verified evidence" that they were in possession of materials that would "incite hostility" to the regime.

Lebanon

Beirut Fighting — Amal and Palestinian gunmen continued fighting in Beirut 23-26 May, while intermittent artillery exchanges across the Muslim-Christian contact lines caused further casualties, according to reports by Beirut and Voice of Lebanon radios. Beirut radio said a 26 May bomb explosion in the Al-Dawrah area killed two people and injured five. Lebanese Forces Executive Committee Chairman Samir Ja'ja' held Syrian intelligence responsible for the explosions in Christian areas and accused Syrian Vice President Khaddam of encouraging the escalation of violence, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Any attempt to find a political solution must begin with the removal of Syrian military and intelligence forces from Lebanon, Ja'ja' asserted.

As for the south, Beirut radio asserted that Israeli artillery shelled a village in the Bint Jubayl district 25 May, killing one man and injuring four other people. The Israeli-backed army of southern Lebanon had clashed with "terrorists" in the area the previous day, according to Jerusalem radio.

Hostages — Regarding the fate of U.S. and other foreign hostages in Lebanon, an anonymous caller claiming to represent the Islamic Jihad told the Voice of Lebanon that his organization will execute all the Americans, four French and one British hostage 27 May.

PLO in Tunisia

The PLO has informed Tunisia of the PLO's decision to end its military presence in Tunisia, 'Arafat stated in an interview with

Dubayy's *AL-BAYAN* cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio 23 May. However, the PLO still maintains its political and administrative presence in Tunis, the PLO leader noted.

Gulf Affairs

Qatar-Bahrain Dispute — According to "well-informed sources" in Manama cited by the Al-Shariqah paper *AL-KHALIJ* 26 May, the Bahraini and Qatari amirs have pledged to refrain from resorting to force as long as attempts are made to resolve the two countries' dispute. The sources revealed that Qatar will withdraw all of its forces from Fasht al-Dibal Island while the Bahraini presence on Hawar Islands will revert to the level prior to the eruption of the dispute.

A statement issued by the GCC Secretariat 25 May announced that the Supervisory and Monitoring Commission established to oversee the implementation of the agreement between the two sides commenced its work the same day. A 24 May WAKH report citing Abu Dhabi press reports said Qatar ended the "restriction" imposed on Fasht al-Dibal.

Somali President Hurt in Accident

Mogadishu radio cited a report 26 May that described President Muhammad Siad Barre's condition as "very good" following his involvement in a traffic accident 23 May outside Mogadishu. An earlier radio report revealed that Barre was transferred 24 May to a hospital in Saudi Arabia for "further medical investigation." Meanwhile, the clandestine Radio Halgan termed the situation in the capital as "very tense" following the accident, and asserted that extra troops have been sent into the city. The radio also claimed that "many" people were killed or wounded at the scene of Barre's accident when his security officers opened fire on the bus that had collided with the car in which the president was riding.

OPEC Affairs

Jeddah radio reported the conclusion of the 3-day meeting of the OPEC Ministerial Committee in charge of negotiating with non-OPEC oil producing nations in Al-Ta'if 25 May. The radio cited Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani's assertion that a "complete understanding" was achieved in general, and noted that the resolutions of the meeting would be forwarded to the next OPEC conference.

DRA-Pakistan

Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan expressed satisfaction over the results thus far achieved in the indirect talks with Afghanistan in Geneva, Karachi radio reported. Khan disclosed that agreement was reached on some "important principles," but he noted that some "major" issues, including the timeframe of Soviet troop withdrawals from Afghanistan, still have to be negotiated. The UN secretary general's personal envoy to the talks, Diego Cordovez, noted "substantial progress" during the seventh round of indirect talks which concluded 23 May, and revealed that the two sides discussed the issue of the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan for the first time, according to the radio.

In other developments, the radio noted that Pakistan lodged a "strong" protest with Afghanistan over further air and artillery attacks in border areas.

As for the DRA internal situation in the wake of Najibullah's accession to the post of PDPA general secretary, IRNA cited reports that supporters of Najibullah and DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium President Babrak Karmal clashed "last week" in Kabul following the arrests of PDPA officials Mahmud Barialay and Anahita Ratebzad. In other developments, a news conference in Kabul under BAKHTAR auspices cited by Moscow radio 24 May claimed that U.S. "Stinger" missiles already have been delivered to the Afghan "counterrevolutionary" camps in Pakistan according to DRA Aviation Minister Muhammad 'Aziz Negahban.

Regarding the political situation in Pakistan, Karachi radio announced that the National Assembly speaker was ousted from his post after losing a no-confidence vote 26 May by a wide margin.

FBIS

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Najibullah Addresses Elders of Lowgar Province

LD250613 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0503 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 24, BAKHTAR — The state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan led by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, is firmly determined to ensure overall peace and security and the normalisation of the situation in the country.

This was stated by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, addressing the elders and representatives of the working people of Lowgar Province, east of the country, receiving them here today.

We have employed, general secretary of the PDPA CC emphasized, all the political means in international arena in order to get the situation around Afghanistan solved through political talks. We look ahead with good prospect and are hopeful that aggression and intervention into the internal affairs of the country to be totally ended as a result of the talks and our countrymen living abroad to return to their homeland, said Comrade Najibollah.

The party and state of the DRA, he added, will provide all the facilities for ensuring genuine equality to the tribes and nationalities enabling all of them to take equal participation in all socio-economic and political sphere.

In view of such facilities, general secretary of the PDPA CC called upon the people of Lowgar to take an active part for the development of the national economy and the building of a prosperous Afghanistan.

A number of representatives including (Nur Ahmad Stanakzai), (Haji Muhammed Asef Khesrawi) and (Ghulam Rabani), on behalf of their a areas, assured comrade Naibullah of their all out contribution for the realization of the lofty objectives of the revolution.

Karmal Addresses DYOA Anniversary Function

LD270609 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0457 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 25, BAKHTAR — Babrak Karmal, member of Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA conferred upon the vanguard youths of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) the state awards and medals endorsed by the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, on the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of the DYOA, for appreciating their works and struggles.

Addressing the attendees of the function held on the occasion, Babrak Karmal attracted the attention of the youths to the imperative responsibilities for the construction of the new society. He wished them successes and great honours on the path of building the country and ensuring the interests of the working people of the country.

Farid Muzdak, first secretary of the DYOA representing the DYOA assured the PDPA and state of the DRA and Babrak Karmal in person that they would struggle till the last breath of their lives for the implementation of the documents and decisions of the PDPA.

7th Round Geneva Talks With Pakistan End

LD241715 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Another stage of the seventh round of talks between the DRA and Pakistan, conducted through Diego Cordovez, representative of the UN secretary general, ended yesterday at Geneva's Palais Des Nations.

The head of the Afghan delegation to the talks was Shah Muhammad Dost, the DRA foreign affairs minister and the head of the Pakistan delegation was Sahibzada Yaqub Khan, Pakistan's foreign minister.

The talks will be resumed in Geneva on 30 July.

Dost Returns From Talks

LD261800 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] DRA Minister of Foreign Affairs Shah Muhammad Dost, who visited Geneva as head of a DRA delegation to hold talks with Pakistan, returned home today.

Commerce Minister Muhammad Khan Jalalar, advisors and deputy ministers of foreign affairs, and the Soviet minister-counciller in Kabul, Petrov, welcomed the delegation at Kabul international airport.

AFP Reports 25 May Cabinet Reshuffle

BK250855 Hong Kong AFP in English 0831 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 25 (AFP) — Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad appointed 17 ministers to his cabinet Sunday, the Presidential Palace said. Five state ministers and three deputy ministers were also sworn in Sunday at a ceremony held at the Presidential Palace.

All but one of the new ministers hold seats in Parliament from the pro-government Jatiya Party, the palace said. Most of the ministers who took office Sunday were previous cabinet members who resigned on March 24 to contest the May 7 parliamentary election.

Mr. Ershad's cabinet had been cut to eight members after 19 ministers resigned to run in parliamentary races.

Presidential Palace sources said the full list of ministers and their portfolios would be released shortly.

Dhaka Lists New Cabinet

BK251638 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Seventeen [as heard] ministers, five ministers of state, and three deputy ministers were sworn in in Dhaka today. The oath of office was administered by President Ershad at a simple ceremony at Banga Bhavan this afternoon. The ministers and their portfolios are:

—**Rear Admiral Sultan Ahmed**, DCMLA [deputy chief martial law administrator] and chief of naval staff: Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Inland Water Transport;
—**Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud**, DCMLA and chief of air staff: Ministry of Industries;
—**Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury**: post and telecommunications;
—**Mr Moudud Ahmed**: communications;
—**Justice A.K.M. Nurul Islam**: law and justice;
—**Major General Abdul Mannan Siddiqui**: relief and rehabilitation;
—**Retired Major General M. Shamsul Haq**: planning;
—**Retired Major General Mohabbat Jan Chowdhury**: food;
—**Major General M.A. Munim**: agriculture;
—**Major General Mahmudul Hasan**: home affairs;
—**Retired Air Vice Marshal K.M. Aminul Islam**: local government, rural development, and cooperative;
—**Kazi Zafar Ahmed**: commerce;
—**Mr Shamsul Huda Chowdhury**: religious affairs;
—**Dr M.A. Matin**: education;
—**Mr M. Korban Ali**: labor and manpower;
—**Shah Moazzam Hussain**: information;
—**Mr M.A. Sattar**: jute and textiles;
—**Mr Anisul Islam Mahmud**: irrigation, water development, and flood control;
—**Mr Sirajul Hussain Khan**: fishery and livestock;
—**Mrs Rabia Bhuiya**: social welfare and women's affairs;
—**Mr Zakir Khan Chowdhury**: youth and sports;
—**Mr Anwar Hussain**: energy and mineral resources;
—**Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury**: foreign affairs;
—**Mr Salahuddin Kader Chowdhury**: works;
—**Mr A.K. Moyeedul Islam**: land administration and land reforms.

The ministers of state and their portfolios are:

—**Mr. Shafiqul Gani Swapan**: civil aviation and tourism division of the Ministry of Defense;
—**Mr Sunil Gupta**: communications;
—**Retired Lieutenant Colonel Zafar Imam**: energy and mineral resources;
—**Mr Anwar Zahid**: information;
—**Mr Mustafa Jamal Haidar**: local government, rural development, and cooperatives.

The deputy ministers and their portfolios are:

—**Sheikh Shahidul Islam**: youth and sports;
—**Mr Ziauddin Ahmed Bablu**: education; and
—**Mr Misbahuddin Ahmed Bablu**: industries.

The president has also appointed Mr T.I.M. Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury as his adviser. Mr Chowdhury will enjoy the status and privileges of a cabinet minister and will be in charge of O and M [expansion unknown] regulations and training wing of the Ministry of Establishment.

Government Declares Amnesty for Chittagong Rebels

BK241602 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] The government has again declared a general amnesty for the remaining misguided people of the Chittagong hill tracts to allow them to return to their normal life. The amnesty will be in force from tomorrow to the 25th of next month. In a handout issued in Dhaka today, it was stated that already a large number of misguided people are willing to start their normal life after being impressed by the honorable rehabilitation of the misguided people and largescale development work of the Chittagong hill tracts. The government has expressed the hope that the remaining misguided people will respond to the opportunity of general amnesty and assist the development of the Chittagong hill tracts.

Pakistani Intruders Killed by Border Forces

BK250852 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Five Pakistani nationals were killed in two separate encounters with Border Security Force [BSF] jawans [soldiers] in Anupgarh sector of Rajasthan early this morning. According to a BSF spokesman, the Pakistani intruders were killed while trying to sneak into the India territory. When challenged by the BSF patrol, the Pakistanis fired at them. The BSF jawans returned the fire and killed them.

Government Questions Sri Lankan Government Tactics

BK231256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 May 86

[Excerpt] India has told Sri Lanka that it would have to consider whether to continue its good offices in resolving the ethnic problem if the island's government continued with the current military offensive in the northern peninsula. This was conveyed by the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, when he called on President Jayewardene in Colombo yesterday. President Jayewardene is understood to have told Mr Dixit that his government is still interested in resolving the problem peacefully. He wanted India to continue its good offices to bring the two sides together for a negotiated peaceful settlement. The Sri Lankan defense secretary, General Sepala Attygalle, was present at the meeting.

Gandhi Hosts Dinner for Visiting SWAPO Leader

BK230408 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] India and the Southwest Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] have reaffirmed their resolve to bring about the independence of Namibia and end apartheid in South Africa. This emerged at a dinner hosted by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, in honor of the visiting SWAPO president, Mr Sam Nujoma, in New Delhi last night.

Mr Gandhi pledged India's continued moral and material support to the liberation struggle in Namibia. He said the Frontline African States need help because of outside interference in their internal affairs. He rejected the idea of linking Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola. The prime minister supported the rights of the Frontline States to provide sanctaury to SWAPO and Namibian Freedom Fighters and said these cannot be abrogated. He pointed out that it is not enough to condemn the racist Pretoria regime raids on the Frontline States without recognizing the linkage between racism in South Africa and its (?depredations) abroad.

Mr Sam Nujoma said that his organization will not rest until Namibia is freed. He criticized the United States for its involvement inthe conflict in South Africa and openly collaborating with the Botha regime. Mr Nujoma thanked Mr Gandhi for his support to the liberation struggle in southern Africa and described Mr Gandhi's last week's visit to some Frontline States as timely.

Gandhi Reviews Punjab Situation With Minister

BK261559 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 86

[Excerpts] The prime minister reviewed the Punjab situation with the home minister, Mr Buta Singh, today. Mr Buta Singh, who is back in New Delhi after a tour of some areas of Punjab, including Ludhiana and Amritsar, gave a firsthand assessment of the situation. He emphasized the need for measures to ensure safety for life and property of the people, particularly of the minorities in rural areas.

Punjab Official Reportedly Shot in Vancouver

BK260927 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] A UNI [United News of India] message just received says that the planning minister of Punjab, Mr (Maltiab) Singh, was shot at and wounded at Vancouver in Canada yesterday. According to an official report received in Chandigarh, Mr (Maltiab) Singh was on a private visit to Vancouver. Soon after the accident he was immediately taken to a hospital for an emergency operation. He has been declared out of danger. Reports said five persons have been arrested.

Punjab Strike Protests Terrorist Killings

BK231607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] In Punjab, a bundh [strike] was observed today in Amritsar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur, and Jullunder districts in protest against the killing of 11 persons by terrorists in the Krishnanagar area of Amritsar on Wednesday. In Amritsar and Kapurthala districts, most of the shops remained closed while in Hoshiarpur and Jullundur some shops remained closed during the first half of the day. The call for the bundh was given by some religious and political organizations.

According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, except in Amritsar, no untoward incident has been reported from anywhere in the state. In Amritsar, eight persons have been injured in stabbing incidents since last night. One police constable received burns when some persons threw acid on him. The Punjab Government has posted two deputy inspectors general of police in the border districts of Amritsar and Gurdaspur to coordinate and supervise the efforts of the police and paramilitary forces to maintain law and order and curb terrorist activities.

The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, told our Chandigarh correspondent that the deployment of forces has been reorganized and made more effective all over the state, especially in the border districts. He said additional vehicles and wireless sets have been provided to the forces to make them more mobile. Mr Barnala said special care in this regard has been taken of Amritsar, Batala, Tarn Taran, and other sensitive areas. The chief minister said those indulging in terrorist activities are the enemies of humanity. The killing of innocent persons is a heinous crime.

PRC's Fu Hao Continues Visit, Received by Zia

BK221142 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 22 May 86

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed his confidence that sincere friendship and mutual cooperation between Pakistan and China will be further consolidated in the years to come. He expressed the confidence in reply to the messages of the Chinese leaders which were conveyed to him by the visiting leader of the 6-member Chinese good-will delegation, Mr Fu Hao, who called on him at the Aiwan-i-Sadr [presidential house] in Islamabad today. The president expressed best wishes to the government and people of China for the continued progress and prosperity of that country.

Mr Fu Hao conveyed to the president special greetings and good wishes of the Chinese leaders, including the chairman and the secretary general of the Chinese Communist Party and the president and the prime minister of China. He also expressed supreme satisfaction over the development of friendly relations and close cooperation between the two countries over the last 35 years.

Delegation Leaves 27 May

BK270707 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The 7-member Chinese good-will delegation led by Fu Hao, member of the National People's Congress Standing Committee and vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, left Karachi for Beijing this morning after a week-long visit to Pakistan.

Government Protests Afghan Cross-Border Attacks

BK251535 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] The Kabul regime's aircraft violated Pakistani airspace on Wednesday [21 May] near Parachinar in Khurram Agency and dropped 40-50 bombs on frontier constabulary posts at (Shadal Tal) and Bala Hissar, causing damage to the posts. The same day, the Kabul regime's armed forces also intensively shelled (Utsar), (Shadal Tal), (Duwa Kotal), and Bala Hissar.

The Kabul administration's forces also fired artillery shells in the Naupash area near Nawagai in Mehmand Agency on Friday.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office, and a strong protest was lodged with him over these unprovoked attacks.

Yaqub Khan on Geneva Talks, Afghan Violations

BK261104 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, has said he is satisfied with the progress so far made at the indirect talks on Afghanistan in Geneva. He was talking to newsmen on his return to Islamabad this morning from Geneva where he represented Pakistan at the proximity talks. The foreign minister said the text of instrument form which brings together all the components of the political settlement in an integrated package has matured to a considerable extent. An agreement has been reached on some of the important principles, including the legally binding status of the instrument.

Some of the major issues, including the timeframe for withdrawal of Soviet troops are yet to be negotiated which he hoped would be resolved in future.

The foreign minister thanked the UN secretary general and his personal representative for advancing the negotiations on the Afghanistan problem and promoting a just settlement. He said Pakistan wanted to see an early end to the massive suffering inflicted upon the Afghan following the led intervention in Afghanistan. However, in the search for an honorable and realistic settlement of the Afghanistan problem Pakistan cannot be daunted by threats to its security as manifested in the recent violations of its airspace and territory from the Afghanistan side. Pakistan has demonstrated its capability to defend its frontiers and no threat or pressure could diminish its determination to seek a just settlement consistent with principles.

UN's Cordovez on Talks

BK240243 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] The seventh round of the indirect talks on Afghanistan was adjourned in Geneva today and is to be reconvened on the 30th of July next. This was announced by the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan, Mr Diego Cordovez, at a news conference in Geneva today to mark the conclusion of the 3 weeks of talks. He said that both sides wanted to return to their capitals at this stage so as to consult their principals before resuming the discussion. He said the two sides remained absolutely determined to continue the negotiations. Mr Cordovez said that the two interlocutors were of the view that substantial progress had been achieved in delineating elements and the structure of the fourth instrument of the settlement package which mainly dealt with the interrelationship between the assurances of noninterference and nonintervention and the withdrawal of the foreign troops from Afghanistan.

Mr Cordovez said that discussions this time have centered around substantive questions only and not on matters of procedural nature as in the past. A number of very important issues in the fourth component of the settlement have been settled during the negotiations in a mutually satisfactory manner. However, Mr Cordovez said two key issues including one relating to the timeframe for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan had not been resolved. He said there was a wide gap in perceptions on these two issues, but it could be narrowed down depending on an atmosphere in which the negotiations were taking place. He said the atmosphere during the past 3 weeks had remained good and constructive. Mr Cordovez expressed his disappointment at the slow pace at which the talks had moved. In a way, he said, the negotiations had to be slow because the talks had reached a very crucial stage and both sides were being very cautious. The fact it was essential that whatever they approve should be well-considered documents so that it would lead to a comprehensive settlement and could be effectively implemented [sentence as heard].

Mr Cordovez said that considering the fact that it took the two interlocutors almost 4 years to work the first three instruments dealing with the questions of noninterference and nonintervention, declaration of international guarantees, and providing for the voluntary return of Afghan refugees, the progress during the current negotiations have been quite satisfactory. He said agreement on only two paragraphs of the fourth instrument now remained to be reached. One of the important issues which had been settled during the past few days related to the legal status of the projected agreement.

Mr Cordovez said that the question relating to the timeframe for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan would definitely be discussed because there was an agreement worked out during the previous rounds establishing the interrelationship of this question with the rest of the settlement package. He said the adjournment of the discussion could be helpful and he felt that it could enable the negotiators to build up the broad political support which was essential for an ultimate settlement. Mr Cordovez said everything mentioned in the draft fourth instrument including the question of the timeframe for the withdrawal of the Soviet troops had been discussed during the negotiations. Both the sides had their own perceptions of this key issue, although it was generally felt that a discussion on the timeframe should be (?deferred) till the formulation of the fourth instrument of the settlement.

Mr Cordovez said that the wide gap on the question of timeframe, notwithstanding, it was a good sign that the two sides were moving toward the same direction in a serious search for the solution of this problem. APP [ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN] says Mr Cordovez declined to elaborate on the other key issue dividing the two sides although it was generally regarded as one concerning the question of establishing a mechanism of the United Nations supervision for the implementation of the projected agreement.

Assembly Votes To Remove Speaker From Position

BK261026 Karachi Domestic Service in English
1005 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The National Assembly began its session at the State Bank building in Islamabad this morning with the deputy speaker, Sardar Wazir Ahmed Jogezai, in the chair. The newly elected member from Bannu, Mr Mauladad Khan, was administered oath by the deputy speaker. A panel of chairmen to preside over the assembly sitting was announced. They are: Brigadier, retired, Mohammad Aslam, Mr Gauhar Ayyub Khan, Shahzada Jam Mohammad Yusuf, and Agha Ata Mohammad Khan.

The order of the day contained only one item on the agenda relating to five identical motions seeking leave of the House for resolutions expressing no confidence in the speaker, Syed Fakhr Imam. The assembly granted leave to Rana Nazir Ahmed Khan to move a resolution for the removal of Syed Fakhr Imam from the office of the speaker. When put to vote, 148 members stood up from their seats supporting the resolution. Moving the resolution, Rana Nazir Ahmed Khan said the speaker had not been impartial and he used the House for promoting himself instead of the prestige of the House. Mian Mohammad Zaman said the speaker failed to promote parliamentary and democratic traditions. The session continues.

Vote Supported by Junejo

BK270238 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT
27 May 86

[Text] The National Assembly removed Syed Fakhr Imam from the office of speaker last night by passing a no-confidence motion against him by 152 votes. Giving the details of the voting, Deputy Speaker Sardar Wazir Ahmed Jogezai said 72 votes were cast against the resolution while 3 votes were rendered invalid.

Talking briefly to newsmen, Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo said that the action taken to remove the speaker from his post is fully in line with the law and forms part of the democratic process. He said that voting a speaker out of office is a normal procedure anywhere and is not exclusive to Pakistan. Defending the presidential ordinance regarding the amendment in the Political Parties Act, the prime minister said it is a normal action. Mohammad Khan Junejo said he firmly believes in the supremacy of the law, the Constitution, and democratic values, and will uphold them at all costs.

SRI LANKA

Troops To Halt Operations if Militants Stop Violence

BK240722 Hong Kong AFP in English 0700 GMT 24 May 86

[By Neville de Silva]

[Text] Colombo, May 24 (AFP) — Sri Lanka has said it will immediately halt military operations against Tamil separatists — if the militants stp using violence, well-informed sources said here Saturday.

President Junius Jayewardene outlined the Sri Lankan position when he met Indian Envoy Jyotindra Nath Dixit here Thursday, the sources said.

He said he would immediately halt military operations against Tamil militants campaigning for an independent state in the north and east of the island if they stopped their violence, the sources said.

But he stressed that the government could not stop military operations as long as the militants continued their attacks, the sources added.

Mr. Jayewardene also said that Sri Lanka wanted India to continue its mediation efforts to find a political solution to the country's ethnic crisis, Mr Dixit told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

He said he had told Mr. Jayewardene that military operations must be stopped if there was to be a peaceful resolution of the Tamil problem.

The Colombo sources said that Mr. Dixit told the Sri Lankan president that unless military operations were halted, New Delhi's offer to help search for a political solution to the Tamil question would be jeopardised.

The Indian envoy declined to reveal Friday whether India was prepared to abandon its role as mediator if the Sri Lankan Government continued to carry out military operations.

Fighting between Tamil militants and Sri Lankan troops described by local residents as a major military offensive has left 37 people dead in the past week, according to official figures.

The government has said it was not carrying out an offensive but a regular troop rotation which was now under way.

India, which has a Tamil population of more than 50 million, has been acting as a mediator between the government and the minority Tamil population on the Sinhala-dominated island.

Sri Lanka is annoyed by what it perceived as India's "partiality and one-sidedness" on the Tamil question and the genuineness of its "good offices" is being seriously questioned here, authoritative sources said.

"India wants the government to halt military activities but it does not ask the terrorists who are living in southern India to stop their acts of violence. So how can India's role of mediator be taken seriously," a prominent politician who declined to be identified asked Saturday.

Mr. Jayewardene also briefed Mr. Dixit on acts of violence committed by militants this month, including the bombing of an Air Lanka jetliner at Colombo's international airport and a blast at a central telegraph office in Colombo, the sources said. More than 30 people died in the bombings.

Three people were killed and three wounded early Saturday in an attack by Tamil militants on a village near Kalkudah, in eastern Batticaloa District, security sources said.

Armed militants arrived at the village and opened fire, the sources said, adding that they could not provide further details.

In an attack Friday, six Sinhla villagers were killed and seven wounded when armed militants attacked two villages near Seruwila, in Trincomalee District, well-informed sources said.

Some of the villagers were about to leave for a Buddhist temple for prayers during Friday's Buddhist holiday when they were attacked, the sources said.

Official sources confirmed the attack but could not give details immediately.

Government Informs India

BK250343 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Sri Lanka has conveyed to India that Colombo will halt military operations in the troubled areas of the island only if the militants stop their attacks. The Sri Lanka position was conveyed to the Indian high commissioner, Mr J.N. Dixit, when he met President Jayewardene early this week to convey India's concern over the military operations in the Jaffna peninsula. India has told Sri Lanka that if the military operations did not stop its offer of good offices to help bring about a political settlement to the ethnic issue will be jeopardized. Mr Jayewardene is also reported to have told the Indian envoy that Colombo will convey further elaborations on the recent proposals for provincial autonomy if there is an absolute guarantee that the Tamil groups will not seek further clarifications.

Meanwhile, the death toll in yesterday's attack on some villages in Trincomalee District by the militants has risen to 12.

Reportage on Reaction to Thatcher Visit to Israel

Musavi: Visit 'Confrontation'

GF260528 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 26 May 86

[Excerpt] The Iranian Cabinet held a meeting yesterday. At the meeting, Prime minister Mir Hoseyni Musavi commented on Mrs Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine. He noted that it was a direct British confrontation with the Islamic world and said the United Kingdom had played a major role in helping the Zionists capture this part of Islamic territory. The present visit, he said, is in fact an open British confrontation with all Muslims.

IRNA Reports Further

LD251912 Tehran IRNA in English 1806 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — The Cabinet of the Islamic Republic of Iran in its Sunday meet criticized the visit of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to the occupied Palestine as a head-on challenge to the Muslim world.

Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi who presided over the cabinet session said that the British Government has played the biggest role in the occupation of this part of Islamic world (palestine) by the Zionist regime.

"Thatcher's visit is in fact a clear declaration of enmity with the world of Islam", Musavi said.

Meanwhile the minister of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) Mohsen Rafiqdust who was present at the session presented a report on the latest developments in the warfronts.

The IRGC minister said that 2,000 Iraqi soldiers have been killed in four operational regions in the battlefronts recently. He added the figure does not include the toll of non-Iraqi soldiers fighting alongside the Iraqi troops.

'Human Rights' Statement Scored

GF260940 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 May 86

[From the press review]

[Text] On the prime minister's denunciation of Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine, *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI* carries the following report: Prime Minister Engineer Mir Hoseyn Musavi denounced the current visit being paid by the British prime minister to occupied Palestine. He regarded this a flagrant challenge to the Islamic world. He added that Britain was foremost among those contributing to ensure the Zionist occupation of Palestine and separate it from the corpus of the Islamic state. This visit is actually a declaration of flagrant animosity toward all Muslims in the Islamic world.

The paper continues its comment on Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine by saying: What is ridiculous is that on the eve of Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine, she said that she believes in the issue of human rights and that Israel holds this same belief. Thatcher's remarks imply that during her visit to occupied Palestine and entering this land — where not a single inch has not been stained by the blood of martyrs who have fallen in defense of their land, honor, and Islam — she wants to defend human rights through providing aid to the Zionist ally. This very defense of human rights is done in accordance with the British-Zionist method. It is not strange that today we see the same people who, in association with the Zionists, usurped Palestine claim they are defending human rights.

Mo'ayeri Returns From France, Comments on Talks

LD232155 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister for Political Affairs Mo'ayeri, who had gone to France at the head of a delegation for talks with French officials aimed at settling bilateral problems, returned to Tehran this evening. During a brief interview with our correspondent at Mehrabad airport, he said:

My visit follows the coming to power of Jacques Chirac's government and his expression of a desire for the noralization of relations between the two countries, which manifested itself in the visit of our country by two French missions.

In the course of our meetings with the officials of that country, three fundamental conditions raised by the Islamic Republic of Iran were discussed. They were: neutrality regarding the imposed war launched by the Zionist regime of Saddam Husayn; unconditional repayment of the loan owed to Iran; and French restraint from supporting the terrorists and the fugitive counterrevolutionaries. The practical ways of settling these problems were subsequently discussed.

He then added: French officials then made certain promises on these matters. We hope to see the realization of these promises in the near future.

Briefs President, Majlis Speaker

LD251801 Tehran IRNA in English 1751 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — Iran's Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Reza Mo'ayeri on Sunday met President 'Ali Khamene'i and Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani separately and presented each a report on his visit to Paris last week.

In Paris Mo'ayeri held talks with senior French Government officials among them President Francois Mitterrand and Prime Minister Jacques Chirac with whom he discussed topics on normalization of Iran-France relations.

Iran's conditions for normalizing relations with Paris include France's repayment of an outstanding one-billion-dollar loan, French neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war and an end to its support of Iranian counterrevolutionaries and emigre groups in France.

Opposition Says U.S. Monitoring USSR From Iran

LD261027 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0802 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Kuwait, 26 may (KUNA) — *AL-WATAN* cites Iranian opposition sources in Paris as saying that the United States under a special agreement with the Iranian regime, resumed the operation of electronic intelligence stations inside Iran today in exchange for selling and providing the Iranian Army with modern weapons and spare parts for U.S. weapons used by this army.

A statement by these sources published in *AL-WATAN* here today, said that these stations were closed down and the American experts left after the downfall of the Shah's regime in 1979. Ever since then, the sources added, Americans have tried to find new areas to operate these stations either from Iran or other countries such as Pakistan or Turkey. However, by the beginning of this year, a new agreement was reached over long negotiations between the Iranian regime and a delegation whereby both sides agreed to reopen these stations.

The Iranian opposition states in its message, that the new agreement stipulates that the Americans are commited to provide the Iranian Army with modern weapons and spare parts for the American weapons this army uses, and that consignments of the American weapons have started to arrive to Iran through Pakistan.

The sources added that the agreement also stipulates that Washington provide Tehran with some of the information collected by these intelligence stations, particularly in regard to the Iraqi forces and their movements — which will be utilized by the Iranian Army in its military operations on the battle fronts.

The opposition sources asserted that Israeli experts carrying U.S. passports arrived in Iran in a move to extend these stations' intelligence operations to include other areas adjacent to the Soviet Union's territories, bearing in mind that the previous stations during the Shah's rule were directed to gather intelligence on the Soviet territories.

The paper states that the Americans concluded a secret agreement with the Pakistani Government to set up new intelligence monitoring stations at "(Qadir)" area in Baluchistan close to the Iranian borders.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2479

LD231920 Tehran IRNA in English 1857 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 23, IRNA — A military communique released here Friday by the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that on Thursday one Iraqi helicopter had been downed in the western fronts.

The Communique Number 2479 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said also that 17 heavy vehicles and nine command vehicles, one engineering vehicle and four Iraqi tanks head been wrecked by the Iranian forces in the various parts of the battlefronts Friday.

Iran's fighter bombers on Friday pounded concentration centers of the Iraqi Armed Forces in Rawanduz at 36:30 degrees north and 44.45 degrees east and safely returned to their bases.

The Communique Number 2479 of the Joint Staff said that at 02.30 hours Thursday Iraqi infantrymen tried to infiltrate Iranian positions near the Kadoud Heights but that they were repelled as they sustained heavy casualties. Elsewhere in Sar Dasht Iran's Muslim forces chased away Iraqi patrol troops Thursday, and inflicted heavy casualties on them.

The Iranian forces on Thursday liberated Heights Number 345, 330 and 310 near Mehran inside the Iraqi territory in the wake of heavy fighting with the Iraqi forces.

Meanwhile on Thursday the Iranian cities of Piranshah and Abadan were sporadically shelled from across the border by the Iraqi artillery.

Correspondents on Mehran Fighting

LD231210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 23 May 86

[Excerpts] We draw your attention to a report from a Central News Unit correspondent on the continuing battles of the Islamic warriors with the Zionist enemy forces in Mehran operational zone:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The proud battles of the forces of monotheism in Mehran operational areas against the heathen forces of Saddam, still continue. Islam's combatants have checked any moves by the aggressor Ba'thists with heavy and light weapons fire.

According to reports by the Central News Unit correspondents despatched to the operational areas of Mehran, from the early hours of this morning until 1130, the artillery fire of the mighty forces of monotheism destroyed 8 tanks of the Saddamists and killed or injured more than 300 mercenaries. Furthermore, two large ammunition dumps in the frontier areas of Mehran were set ablaze.

Following the bombing of positions and fortifications of the aggressor Saddamists in the Mehran frontier areas by the valiant pilots of the Islamic Republic of Iran Air Forces, 3 guns from an artillery battalion stationed in (?Ghar Bayta) were destroyed and its ammunition pile nearby was set ablaze, detonating nearly 2,000 shells.

Iraqi Vessels Repelled, 1 Sunk

LD231716 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] A report from Khatem ol-Anbiya' says:
Concurrent with the victories achieved by the Islamic troops on the various fronts, particularly in Fakkeh and Hajj 'Umran sectors, naval units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps last night succeeded in stopping several Iraqi vessels that were trying to approach the Islamic forces' positions in the waters of 'Val-

Fajr-8' operational theater. As a result heavy casualties were inflicted on them. In the course of this confrontation one Iraqi vessel was hit by the coastal fire of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Khawr 'Abdallah waters and subsequently broke into pieces.

Communique No 2480

LD241727 Tehran IRNA in English 1716 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants shot down an Iraqi warplane in Hajj 'Umran Friday, according to a military communique here Saturday.

The Communique Number 2480 released by the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces says that clashes and close combat continued on Height 2435 in Hajj 'Umran Friday in the wake of which a large number of Iraqi soldiers were killed their bodies lying scattered in the battlefields.

Exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in the western fronts Friday raging somewhat more heavily in Mehran and Meymak in which Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and lost two tanks and a machine-gun of theirs in Mehran, the communique says.

The Joint Staff says that two Iraqi patrol units trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Meymak and Kalleh-Kandi height in Sumar early Friday were shelled and forced to flee by Muslim forces of Iran.

In the southern fronts and especially in Sharhani and Zubeydat artillery duels continued a result of which Iraqi troops incurred casualties and losses. Iranian Muslim forces also shelled oil installations of Iraqi township of Banmil Friday.

Meanwhile, Iraqi artillery fire on Abadan, Khuzestan Province Friday damaged several houses, shops and one mosque.

Iraqi Warplanes Bomb Piranshah

LD240917 Tehran IRNA in English 0908 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Piranshah, W. Azarbayjan Prov., May 24, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes bombed the West Azarbayjan city of Piranshah and its nearby villages five times Friday and Saturday.

One civilian was martyred and a number of others were injured in these raids. A number of houses were also destroyed.

Communique No 2481

LD251630 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters pounded a concentration center of Iraqi troops in the Iraqi city of Rawanduz at 36.33 North and 44.49 East coordinates, at 02:51 hours GMT Sunday inflicting substantial casualties and losses on them. The fighters after successfully carrying out their mission safely returned to their bases, according to a military communique here Sunday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2481 says that Iraqi war planes dropped chemical bombs over Mehran and Salehabad operational regions at 06:45 hours (03:15 hours GMT) Sunday.

Sporadic fighting continued in the northwestern fronts Saturday raging somewhat more heavily in Haj 'Umran where heavy artillery and mortar fire were exchanged, the communique says.

The communique says that Iranian Muslim combatants pounded Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts and prevented enemy helicopters from transporting reinforcements and equipment in (Kelaleh). Two military bases and two munition dumps of Iraqi forces were set ablaze and destroyed in these fronts.

In the western fronts, the communique says, exchange of artillery fire continued sporadically. In Mehran, Muslim forces of Iran opened heavy fire on Iraqi positions checking all enemy operations. They also inflicted heavy casualties and losses on Iraqi forces in areas behind Zaluab.

Several Iraqi gun emplacements were demolished and two enemy trucks set ablaze in the western fronts Saturday, says the communique, adding that oil installations in Iraqi township of Banmil were shelled by Iranian artillery fire Saturday and Sunday.

Muslim forces of Iran, the communique says, checked Iraqi engineering operations in Sumar and supply as well as transport operations of enemy motorized units in Helaleh and Kani-Sheykh Saturday and Sunday.

Elsewhere the communique says that sporadic artillery duels continued in the southern fronts Saturday as a result of which Iraqi forces incurred heavy casualties and losses.

In Nahr-Anbar, Chazabeh and Zobeydah, movements of Iraqi armoured and motorized units were checked on Saturday and Sunday, says the Joint Staff Communique.

The military communique says that Iraqi artillery fire hit the city of Abadan, Khuzestan Province, and villages in the outskirts of Piranshahr, West Azarbaijan Province, Saturday inflicting casualties and damage on villagers.

Further on Iraqi Chemical Weapons

LD251051 Tehran IRNA in English 1048 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Mehran, May 25, IRNA — Iraqi warplanes hit Mehran and Salehabad operational theater in west of Iran with chemical bombs twice Sunday morning.

During the attack a number of Islamic Forces of Iran were martyred or wounded but the casualty is not high since the Iranian Forces were equipped with anti-chemical gas masks.

This is the first time Iraq uses chemical weapons against Mehran operational theater. The United Nations has officially condemned the Baghdad regime for its deployment of chemical weapons.

Iraqi Troops in Rawanduz Bombed

LD250554 Tehran IRNA in English 0549 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — The Iranian fighter-bombers hit troop concentration centers of Iraqi forces in Rawanduz, Al-Sulaymaniyah Province northwest of Iraq, Sunday morning.

A Joint Staff communique released here said that the bombing was carried out at 06:21 local time (02:51 GMT) and hit an area with 36.33 degrees north and 44.49 degree east coordinates.

The fighter-bombers, after inflicting heavy casualties and damage on the Iraqi forces, returned safely to their bases, the communique added.

Jets Bomb Iraqi Power Station

LD251744 Tehran IRNA in English 1729 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed a power station and other energy installations in the Iraqi city of (Darbandi-Khan) at 35.06 North and 45.42 East coordinates, at 13:25 hours (09:55 hours GMT) Sunday.

Earlier Sunday morning, Iranian fighter bombers had pounded a concentration center of Iraqi troops in Rawanduz at 36:33 North and 44:49 coordinates, [as received] at 02:51 hours GMT.

The fighters after successfully carrying out their missions safely returned to their bases.

Iraqi 25 May Raid Claim Denied

LD261111 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 26, IRNA — The War Information Headquarters (WIH) spokesman here Monday categorically denied the Iraqi regime's claims alleging Iran of having attacked several Iraqi cities and townships on Sunday.

The Iraqi Armed Forces command in its Communique 2239 Sunday had alleged that residential areas in Al-Sulaymaniyah Province were hit by the Iranian planes and 12 people were injured in the raid. Furthermore it had claimed that outskirts of the Iraqi city of Khanaqin, Biyarah and Khourmal were under fire of the Iranian long-range artillery.

The Iranian planes, the WIH spokesman added, on Sunday only raided the Iraqi troop concentration centers in Sulaymaniyah Province and a power station in Darbandikhan of Kirkuk Province. The Iraqi claim is totally unfounded and the Iranian planes had attacked no civilian areas on Sunday, the WIH spokesman said.

Communique No 2,482

LD261729 Tehran IRNA in English 1713 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 26, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed a concentration center of Iraqi armoured units and an enemy command headquarters near the Iraqi road of Kumayt, north of Basra, at 32.05 North and 46.55 East coordinates, at 0605 hours GMT Monday, said a military communique here Monday.

The Joint Staff Communique Number 2482 said that the Iranian fighters after successfully carrying out their mission and inflicting substantial losses and casualties on Iraqi forces returned to their bases safely.

An Iraqi missile-launching cruiser trying to break the siege of Iranian naval units in Khawr 'Abdallah early Monday was attacked and forced to flee after sustaining heavy casualties and losses by Iranian naval forces, the communique said.

The military communique said that an Iraqi fighter bomber trying to bombard Iranian positions in Sharhani, southern fronts, was shot down by anti-Aircraft fire of Iranian Muslim combatants at 10:00 hours GMT Monday.

In artillery duels in northwestern fronts Sunday, five tanks and personnel carriers and one munitions dump of Iraqi forces were destroyed, movements of their vehicles halted and 35 Iraqi soldiers captured, according to the communique.

In northwestern fronts, the communique said, exchange of artillery fire continued, raging somewhat more heavily in Mehran. In Sumar, Muslim forces of Iran silenced Iraqi tank fire and forced an enemy patrol unit trying to infiltrate their positions to flee.

Elsewhere the communique said that exchange of artillery and mortar fire continued in the southern fronts raging more intensly in Sharhani, in Majnun Islands and Hoseyniyeh as a result of which Iraqi forces incurred considerable casualties and damage.

Artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants hit and repelled two Iraqi patrol units in Nahr-Anbar Saturday, said the Joint Staff.

Iranian Muslim combatants, the communique said, checked Iraqi armoured units in Kani-Sheykh and Helaleh on Sunday and Monday.

Meanwhile, Iraqi artillery fire on Abadan, Khuzestan Province, Sunday damaged several houses and shops Monday. [as received]

Fighter Downed, Crew Captured

GF261124 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1112 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Dear listeners, I have just received the following news item: The joint staff has announced that our antiaircraft fire this morning downed an Iraqi fighter in the region of Sharhani operations zone. The two pilots of the fighter were captured.

Bombing Raid, Naval Battle Reported

LD261102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The Joint Staff Command of the Islamic Republic of Iran announced that at 0935 local time this morning several air force fighter-bombers bombed the enemy troop concentration and armored forces and command headquarters near the Al-Kumayt road. The coordinates of the bombed area of 32.5 North and 46.55 East. Having inflicted considerable damage on Iraqi forces, the fighter-bombers returned to their bases safely.

Early this morning, one Iraqi rocket-launcher gunboat tried to break the naval siege in (Khwar 'Abdullah) but was hit by Islamic Republic naval units. Having suffered major damage, the gunboat was forced to flee.

WIH Denies Iraqi Claims on Faqqeh

LD260735 Tehran IRNA in English 0712 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 26, IRNA — A spokesman for the War Information Headquarters here Monday refuted recent Iraqi claims to the effect that there had been no clash between the Islamic forces of Iran and the Iraqi troops in Fakkeh region.

He referred to the denial of the Iraqi regime as absurd and said that in the past too the Iraqi regime had resorted to such baseless claims including its denial on the liberation of Al-Faw by the Islamic forces of Iran.

He added that foreign correspondents in Iran are welcomed to visit Faqqeh and see for themselves the signs of the defeat of the Iraqi forces.

Fighters Hit Iraqi Power Installations

GF270508 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The joint staff of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Armed Forces has announced that at 0526 [0154 GMT] this morning the brave pilots of the Islamic Republic of Iran's air force bombed electricity installations in Iraq's Dukan region with their fighter bombers. After delivering heavy damage to these installations, they all returned safely to their bases.

'Val Fajr-8' Operations

LD271102 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Reports from Khatem ol-Anbiya' Headquarters, center for the joint operations of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] and the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, indicate that the combatants of the IRGC Ground Force launched a series of successful operations in the 'Val Fajr-8' operational area at 2300 last night. Our forces attacked enemy positions situated on al-Faw-Al-Bihar axis and completely annihilated the first battalion from the 701st Brigade of the Iraqi Armed Forces. In this operation, hundreds of the Zionist Iraqi regime's forces were killed or wounded, large amounts of their equipment were destroyed and a considerable quantity of heavy and light equipment was captured by the forces of Islam as booty. In last night's operations, 20 soldiers from the Zionist enemy's forces were captured by the combatants of Islam. This report says that several officers and NCO's from Iraq's 701st Brigade were among those killed or captured in last night's operations.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MAY 1986

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad stressed the difference between terrorism and liberation struggle during an Athens banquet speech broadcast by Damascus radio, asserting that the struggle against colonialism and occupation is a "right and a duty" which Syria supports. He acknowledged that Palestinians have sometimes committed errors in their armed struggle, stressing that attacks in West Europe are "terrorist operations and do not benefit the Palestinian cause." Contending that the line separating terrorism and liberation struggles is "clear" to Syria, Al-Asad said the international community should agree on "the limits of terrorism and the limits of resistance and liberation" by discussing the issue in a "responsible international body" that could establish standards of conduct.

Earlier, SANA reported that Al-Asad discussed the "tense situation" in the Mediterranean during lengthy talks with Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou. Athens radio said Papandreou told the Syrian leader that Greece will submit proposals aimed at "activating the European factor" in order to establish conditions for a political dialogue among all parties to the Middle East conflict. The radio also reported the unexpected arrival in Athens of Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, and QNA disclosed that he is carrying a message to Al-asad from King Husayn concerning the latter's efforts to improve Syrian-Iraqi relations.

In Moscow, Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam began talks with Andrey Gromyko, president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, TASS announced 28 May, noting that Khaddam arrived in the Soviet capital the previous day on a working visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

Libya

During his meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud delivered a written message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, JANA reported. A Moscow television report on the meeting said Gorbachev emphasized the Soviet Union's readiness to develop bilateral economic cooperation and to render "assistance" to strengthen Libya's "defense capability." Later, in a Kremlin banquet speech cited by JANA, Jallud praised the "advanced relations" between the two states, while Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported that he expressed Libya's appreciation for the USSR's "unswerving" position regarding the "U.S.-Atlanticist aggression" against the Jamahiriyah.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres "angrily rejected" left-wing opposition charges that the government has tried to cover up the affair of the Shin Bet chief suspected of suppressing evidence to inquiries into the death of two terrorists, Jerusalem radio reported. One of the attorney general's allegations against the Shin Bet chief is that he personally gave the order to kill the two captured terrorists but subsequently led the inquiry commissions to believe that he did not give the order, the radio noted.

Arab Comment on Thatcher Visit

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj told Radio Monte Carlo that the eight Palestinians who met with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher 26 May reaffirmed that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and assured her that "there will be no negotiations or political moves except through the PLO or with PLO approval." The Palestinians supported her proposals for new municipal elections in the occupied territories, he noted. WAFA's political editor sharply criticized Thatcher in a commentary broadcast by Sanaa Voice of Palestine radio, asserting that her government is unique among the Europeans in its "very negative position" on Palestinian rights, a stand which "fully conforms with the U.S.-Zionist position." In contrast, a Cairo radio commentary viewed Thatcher's statements in Israel as a small step that could promote the peace process on the basis of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which is the "most realistic and moderate" on the part of the Palestinian side.

Iran-Iraq War

Iran "smashed" an Iraqi offensive in the Hajj 'Umran area and inflicted "heavy" casualties on the Iraqis, according to a communique cited by IRNA. For Iraq's part, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio reported that Iran suffered "heavy" casualties during an unsuccessful attack in the same sector. In fighting in the Al-Faw area, a military report carried by Tehran radio reported "hundreds" of Iraqi casualties in a series of successful Iranian operations against Iraqi positions along the Al-Faw-al-Bihar axis, while the Iraqi communique noted that Iraq "crushed" an Iranian counterattack in the same sector and inflicted "heavy" losses.

In air activity, "shipping sources" cited by the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* stated that a German container vessel was attacked by Iranian planes in the southern sector of the Gulf 27 May in reprisal for Iraq's missile attack on a Cypriot-registered tanker. Meanwhile, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA asserted that Iraqi fighters raided a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 27 May.

Egypt

The Supreme State Security Court upheld its decision to release 'Umar 'Abd al-Rahman and 59 other Muslim fundamentalists over the objection of Interior Minister Zaki Badr, MENA reported.

Pakistan

One person was killed and four others were injured in a bomb explosion outside a U.S. airline office in Karachi, Karachi radio reported citing the ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN. The report revealed that two other bombs exploded outside Saudi Arabian airline offices, causing damage. AFP said that three bombs detonated outside Saudi airline facilities in Karachi and that another blast occurred at the Saudi consulate general in the city, in addition to the attack on the U.S. airline office.

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Najibullah on Reconciliation With Rebels

LD260533 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0500 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 25, BAKHTAR: "The state of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is prepared for a national reconciliation with those of our countrymen who are wandering abroad in misery, so that they can return to their homeland and resume their normal life". This was stated by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA addressing the audience of a meeting held at Jafar village, Char Asyab District of Kabul Province. It is with such a reconciliation, he emphasized, that a calm and prosperous living condition will prevail through affection and brotherhood.

Talking in a free and democratic atmosphere with the representatives and elders of the district, Comrade Najibullah asked about the problems of the peasants regarding the distribution of land to the landless, repair of roads, mosques, schools, provision of health services and other facilities and notes were taken for tackling their problems.

Haji Abdul Qayum, president of the National Fatherland Front and Marjan, chairman of the village council of the district, on behalf of their district thanked Comrade Najibullah for visiting their area and pledged not to refrain from any efforts for defending the gains of the April Revolution.

General secretary of the PDPA CC met a number of peasants on their farms and chatted with them. He also visited Beni Hesar livestock farm situated in the same area.

Comrade Najibullah critically examined the work of the party committee of the district and drew their further attention for serving the inhabitants of the area.

Najibullah Tours Office of PDPA Paper

LD270624 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 26, OANA-BAKHTAR — Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA, visited the office of the daily *HAQIQAT-E ENQALAB-E SAWR*, organ of the Central Committee of the PDPA, and talked with the personnel of the daily.

Touching upon the present conditions of the country, Comrade Najibullah described the significance of the daily for the mobilisation of the party members and the working people of the country for the implementation of the decisions of the party plenums sixteen through eighteen. Under the conditions of the undeclared war the daily plays a salient role as a propaganda [words indistinct] people's organiser in struggling against the avowed enemies of the country.

He drew the attention of the daily's personnel in levelling up its publication on the socio-economic development of the DRA for the years of 1986 to 1991.

The central publication organ of the PDPA, Comrade Najibullah said, should struggle with ever-greater persistence against the society's negative events and should bring under principled criticism the social organisations and other party members for their shortcomings and their violation of the party discipline.

Sadiq Kawun, editor of the daily, promised to fulfil its duty as a reliable weapon of the party in its struggle for the realisation of the decisions of the plenums of the PDPA CC.

Pakistani Tribal Elder Jailed; Rebel Clashes Noted

LD260538 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 25, BAKHTAR: The Pakistani police in the Mohmand Political Agency, a free tribes region, has put in jail Malik Akbar Khan, one of the elders of Safi Sorkmar, without any reason, reports reaching here say. The valorous people of Safi Sorkmar, the report adds, blocked the main road for four days as a sign of protest. Later, they took hostage a state vehicle with four Pakistani militias against the imprisonment of Malik Akbar Khan. They warned the Pakistani government that these four persons will not be released until Malik Akbar Khan is freed.

According to another report, a bitter clash has taken place at Lashkar Keli Hotel in Mohmand Agency between the Afghan bandits and the people of Mohmand. One person belonging to Koda Kheyl Mohmand was martyred as a result of the clash and the bandits were seriously injured. The people of Mohmand have reportedly disarmed the Afghan bandits and confiscated their arms.

The Mohmand people have asked the Pakistani military regime to withdraw the Afghan bandits from their soil and cautioned the concerned authorities if the situation continues as such they would resort to arms and would forcibly expel the miscreants from their soil.

Unrest in Pakistan Noted; Rebel Arms Depot Destroyed

LD260545 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 25, BAKHTAR: The situation in Peshawar has aggravated, reports reaching here say. As a result of an explosion taken place at one of the markets of the city, 19 people have lost their lives and another 21 people have been seriously wounded, reports add.

Reports add that an explosion has also taken place in the arms depot of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries in Naser Bagh camp of the city which has resulted in the total destruction of the depot. It is said that as a result of the explosion of mines and rockets stored in the depot, 17 persons were killed and seven dwellings have been completely destroyed.

According to another report, an explosion has took place in Afghan hotel in Bajawar, which has claimed the lives of three Afghan counter-revolutionary elements and seriously wounding another one. The report adds that as a result of the explosion, the hotel has been seriously damaged and weapons stored inside the hotel were also destroyed.

After an explosion took place in Loysom, a vast demonstration was staged. The participants of the demonstration demanded that General Ziaul Haq should expel the Afghan counter-revolutionaries territory, otherwise they would be compelled to expel them by force of weapons.

According to another report, the situation in Khurram Agency (a territorial administrative unit of Pakistani regime in the territory of free tribes) has aggravated, and the unrest and raids of the people of the agency against the establishments of Pakistani Government have seriously peturbed the government. The report says that the people of Khurram Agency have attacked the camp of the Afghan counter-revolutionaries and the military post of Pakistani militia in Damoshar, which has resulted in vast financial and human losses to the camp and the military post.

The people of Khurram Agency have raided on a military garrison of Pakistan, called Khoshangoal, inflicting huge financial and human losses to the military forces of Pakistan. The report adds that the people of Khurram Agency have raided on a Pakistani military post called Dogly. The post was besieged for two hours and it suffered great financial and human losses.

Commerce Ministry Releases Foreign Trade Figures

LD250620 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 24, BAKHTAR — The consultative board of the Ministry of Commerce met to consider the implementation of the decisions and resolutions of the 17th and 18th plenums of the PDPA as well as assess the activities of last year ended March 20, 1986. And the draft of the economic plan for (1986) of the ministry.

At the outset, Muhammad Khan Jalalar, minister of commerce, presented the main report dealing with the activity and the work carried out in 1985 by the departments and commercial institutions of the Ministry of Commerce. The report noted that the volume of foreign trade in last Afghan year reached 1,413 million dollars of which 848 million dollars constituted imports and 565 million dollars exports.

Foreign trade with the friendly country — Soviet Union — and other socialist countries is growing satisfactorily. In 1985 the total share of the Soviet Union in exports was 67.6 percent and in imports 61.8 percent. The share of other socialist countries in exports was 8.5 percent and in imports 5.2 percent. These show and increase over the year 1984, the report added.

In home trade, afs [afghanis] 15,050 million were obtained from the selling of goods through state-owned shops and stores of the Ministry of Commerce which shows an increase of 18.7 percent compared to 1985.

SPA: Mujahidin Kill 30 PDPA Members

GF271638 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, 27 May (SPA) — A total of 30 members of the Communist Party ruling in Afghanistan were killed in an ambush set by the Afghan mujahidin upon a vehicle that carried them in Kabul last week. Diplomatic sources today stated that the mujahidin attacked an airport and a Soviet military complex in Kabul last Thursday, destroying 3 Soviet tanks. In an attack with missiles on a Soviet force near Kabul last week, the mujahidin captured two Soviet soldiers.

The sources added that the Afghan capital was put under military control following expanded clashes between two factions of the Communist Party ruling in Afghanistan at the begining of May. A total of 70 persons were killed in the clashes.

Continuing Reportage on Punjab Situation

Gandhi: Accord Will Be Implemented

BK280303 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] The prime minister has reaffirmed that the Punjab accord will be implemented in letter and spirit and nothing can block it. This assurance was given by Mr Rajiv Gandhi to a delegation of the All India Sikh Council which called on him in New Delhi yesterday.

The delegation was led by Mr. R.S. Narula, former justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and included Sikh leaders from various parts of the country.

In a memorandum, the delegation drew the prime minister's attention to the reported cross migration of people to and from Punjab and urged him to take effective measures to check it.

The home minister, Mr Buta Singh, and the union agriculture minister, Dr Dhillon, were also present.

In a resolution adopted at the Punjab Congress-I Executive Committee yesterday, the party appealed to the state government to take all political and administrative steps to ensure security of the life and property of the people.

At a meeting at Ludhiana, the Punjab unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party has also expressed concern over the law and order situation in the state and the migration of some members of the minority community from certain districts.

Meanwhile, eight persons have been arrested from Amritsar on charges of sedition. They include four women.

The state police have also arrested five terrorists in Faridkot and Ludhiana Districts. While four of them were apprehended in Faridkot, one terrorist was caught in Ludhiana. Some arms and ammunition have been recovered from them.

Barnala Rules Out Troop Deployment

BK260948 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The Punjab chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, has welcomed the appointment of the 8-member advisory panel on the Punjab situation under the chairmanship of Mr Jagjivan Ram. Talking to newsmen in Amritsar, he expressed sorrow over the recent violent incidents in the state, particularly in Amritsar, and said action against the terrorists [words indistinct].

Mr Barnala ruled out the deployment of the Army in the border districts of Punjab saying that this is no solution of (?the problem). Earlier, Mr Barnala presented himself at the Akal Takht [highest seat of Sikh religion] in the Golden temple after having completed a week-long atonement as directed by the five Sikh high priests. Mr Barnala was presented a saropa [Sikh saber] on this occasion.

Suspected Terrorists Kill 2

BK250908 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] In Punjab two persons were killed when two suspected terrorists fired at them in village (Teja Kalan) near Fatehgarh Chhurian in Gurdaspur District this morning. The victims were standing at the village bus stop when they were attacked. The culprits escaped before the police could reach the spot. Police and the paramilitary forces have cordoned off the area and the combing operations to apprehend the culprits are continuing.

Assembly Speaker Resigns

BK271311 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The speaker of the Punjab Assembly, Mr Ravi Inder Singh, has resigned. He sent his letter of resignation today to the governor, Mr Siddharta Shankar Ray, who is currently on a visit to Amritsar and Gurdaspur Districts. His resignation comes a week before the state assembly was scheduled to meet to consider a no confidence motion against (?him).

Mathew Commission Proposal Accepted

BK271415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Punjab government has accepted the proposal of the Venkataramaiah Commission to give an area of 15,000 acres in Rajpura Tahsil [revenue district] of Patiala District to Haryana in lieu of Chandigarh. Talking to newsmen in Chandigarh today, the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, said that there are some contiguous Hindi-speaking villages in Rajpura Tahsil equivalent to that area. Punjab is ready to give this area to Haryana for building its new capital. Mr Barnala said that the state is interested that Haryana builds its new capital township near Chandigarh because its benefit could also accrue to Punjab.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the Haryana cabinet was held in Chandigarh today to discuss the commission's proposal.

Later, speaking to newsmen the chief minister, Mr Bhajan Lal, said that the area offered by the commission is inadequate than [as heard] compared to Hindi speaking areas of Abohor and Fazilka Tahsils which have been identified by the Mathew Commission. He said that the state wants to build its new capital in a central place and not near Chandigarh. Mr Bhajan Lal reiterated that the Punjab accord should be implemented in toto.

Further Reportage on Visit of SWAPO's Nujoma

First Diplomatic Mission Opened

BK251415 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] The Southwest African People's Organization [SWAPO] set up a full-fledged diplomatic mission in New Delhi yesterday. Its chancery was inaugurated by the SWAPO president, Mr Sam

Nujoma. It is SWAPO's first embassy anywhere in the world. A group of Africans and others present on the occasion cheered as Mr Nujoma unfurled the mauve, red, and green SWAPO flag in the embassy.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Nujoma said its people will never forget the solidarity and support that India has extended to the Namibian people. India's heroic role against colonialism has inspired oppressed people everywhere in the struggle for freedom.

Referring to the current developments, Mr Nujoma said SWAPO condemns the use of Namibia by Pretoria as a base for aggression against Frontline States.

Criticizes U.S., UK Policy on Namibia

BK261643 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The president of the South West African People's Organization [SWAPO], Mr Sam Nujoma, has warned the Pretoria regime that Namibians will intensify the struggle to speed up their liberation. He was addressiog a news conference in New Delhi today on the last day of his official visit to India. He is leaving for Tehran tomorrow.

Mr Nujoma said his extensive talks with Indian leaders were fruitful. In reply to a question, he said the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has promised to increase material, financial, political and economic support to SWAPO. Asked about the attempt to link Namibia's independence with the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, he said the issue has been created by the United States to block Namibia's freedom. The idea is to delay the independence so that capitalist powers can go on exploiting the natural resources on Namibia and use its coast for their strategic purposes.

He criticized the British Government for refusing to support the demands for economic sanctions against the racist regime on the ground that this would lead to unemployment of a large number of British workers. Mr Nujoma asked how long can British workers depend on the killing of innocent Namibians and exploitation of South African people to keep their jobs.

Mr Nujoma had talks today with the minister for external affairs, Mr P. Shiv Shankar, and the minister for human resources development, Mr Narasimha Rao.

Reportage on Visit of UK Labor Party's Kinnock

Arrival Statement Condemns RSA

BK250919 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] The British opposition Labor Party leader, Mr Neil G. Kinnock, has said that South Africa deserves strong condemnation and total isolation from the world for its raids against some of the Frontline African States. Talking to all India Radio correspondent at Delhi Airport on his arrival in the country this morning, he said his party favors comprehensive sanctions against the Pretoria regime. He described the raids as state-sponsored terrorism against the African people struggling for peace and development.

During his stay in the capital, Mr Kinnock will call on the president and the prime minister. He will also meet the ministers of finance, external affairs, and human resource development.

Meets SWAPO's Sam Nujoma

BK261628 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the opposition in Britain, and the Congress-I vice president, Mr Arjun Singh, had extensive talks in New Delhi today. Mr Arjun Singh hosted a lunch for Mr Kinnock at which some central ministers and leaders of several opposition parties were also present. Among the subjects discussed between Mr Arjun Singh and Mr Kinnock were Britain's attitude toward India and relations between the Labor Party and the Congress-I.

Mr Kinnock had a meeting with the Southwest African People's Organization president, Mr Sam Nujoma. He also called on the external affairs minister, Mr P. Shiv Shankar.

Karachi: Explosions at U.S., Saudi Airline Offices

BK280230 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0214 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] According to ASSOCIATED PRESS of PAKISTAN, one person was killed and four others injured in a bomb explosion outside an American airline office located in a hotel on the (Faysal) Road in Karachi last evening. One of the injured is in critical condition. Two other bombs also exploded outside the Saudi Arabian airline offices at two different places damaging the offices.

Moscow Report on Attack on Indian Helicopter Denied

BK271730 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman in Islamabad had contradicted a news item broadcast by Radio Moscow quoting PRESS TRUST OF INDIA that Pakistani forces had fired a Stinger missile at an Indian helicopter in the Siachen area. The spokesman termed it as baseless and said the item is a motivated allegation and has no truth.

Customs Authorities Seize 'Large Quantity' of Arms

BK280305 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Kohat customs authorities seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition from a truck near the Kotal checkpost near Kohat. These arms were being smuggled from Adam Khel Pass to Kohat. The arms seized included a large number of automatic rifles, pistols, and Kalashnikov rifles and four anti-tank and two anti-aircraft guns.

Afghan Mujahidin Capture Areas of Paktia Province

BK270314 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Reports from Afghanistan say the Afghan mujahidin have captured Sarsal, Zadral, Mir Khel, (Shariqilli), Gulshandi, and Harchantal areas of Paktia Province. They reportedly forced the Soviet-Kabul forces to pull back from these areas. They also launched rocket attacks on a military convoy in Qandahar city early this month, killing eight Soviet-Kabul soldiers and damaging two tanks.

Karachi: 40 Civilians Killed in Qandahar Shelling

BK280303 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] According to reports, Afghan mujahidin repulsed a Soviet-Karmal troops attack in the (Ala Jirga) region after stiff resistance. Mujahidin killed 11 Soviet-Karmal troops and seized a large quantity of arms and ammunition.

According to another report received from Qandahar, the Soviet-Karmal troops destroyed many buildings by shelling the city's [name indistinct] market. More than 40 civilians were killed in the shelling. The people, in a gesture of great anger and anguish over the incident, closed all business establishments in the city.

Judge Rules on Junejo's Membership in House

BK251738 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] The chief election commissioner, Mr Justice S.A. Nusrat, has pronounced that the reference made to him by the speaker of the National Assembly on the 7th of May 1986 has been rendered infructuous consequent upon the promulgation of the Houses of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Election Amendment Ordinance, 1986.

The referent was made under Article 63-2 of the Constitution at the instance of Haji Mohammad Saifullah Khan and of Sher Afghan Khan Niazi, MNA's [Members of National Assembly], regarding the disqualification of Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo and Mr Abdul Sattar (Laleka) from being members of the National Assembly.

Through another order, the chief election commissioner said, having duly considered the arguments of the parties, he was of the view that the reference dated 25th March 1986 made to him by the speaker of the Sind assembly under Article 63-2 read with Article 113 and 127 of the Constitution has been rendered infructuous, consequent upon the promulgation of the Houses of Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Election Amendment Ordinance, 1986.

Zain Noorani Leaves for UN Session on Africa

BK271630 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 May 86

[Excerpt] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani left Islamabad for New York today to attend the 5-day special session of the United Nation's General Assembly that begins today.

Measures to solve the serious economic problems of African nations will be formulated in it.

It is expected that a communique will be issued at the end of the session, the draft of which is being prepared by Pakistan's assistant representative at the UN, Qazi Showkath Farid, who is also a vice chairman of organizing [committee] of the special session.

BANGLADESH

100 Guerrillas Reported Rounded Up by Government

BK250623 Hong Kong AFP in English 0558 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 25 (AFP) — A government amnesty offer went into effect Sunday amid reports that some 100 outlawed tribal guerrillas have been rounded up in southeastern Bangladesh.

The suspected guerrillas, members of the "Shanti Bahini," were arrested in the past few days, before the month-long general amnesty offer took hold, newspapers reported here Sunday. The government amnesty offer, which gives guerrillas one month to surrender, was announced by the Interior Ministry Saturday.

The *NEW NATION* newspaper, quoting "sources" in Chittagong, said that about one-third of those arrested in the past week have confessed to connections with the Shanti Bahini, while the rest were found innocent and allowed to go.

Sources told the newspaper that only suspects captured with firearms were charged and that others were being held for further interrogation. The daily said that the arrests were made during an operation in the Chittagong hill tracts district. It added that the sweep was being "handled carefully so that innocent people did not face any trouble and harassment."

The general amnesty offer came amid reports of escalating trouble in the 13,000-square kilometer (8,060-square mile) rugged Chittagong hill tracts district which borders Burma and the eastern Indian states of Tripura and Mizoram.

According to reports reaching the capital, thousands of Bengali settlers have fled the area in the last few weeks following renewed attacks by Shanti Bahini insurgents.

Official sources in Chittagong said fresh raids by Shanti Bahini insurgents operating from sanctuaries in India have left over 60 people dead and more than 250 wounded since late April. The Shanti Bahini, which means "peace force," has been campaigning against Bengali settlers moved into the area under a government resettling plan. They also want greater autonomy for the tribal-dominated Chittagong hill tracts district.

According to official estimates, clashes among the guerrillas, Bengali settlers, and security forces have claimed up to 6,000 lives since the early 1970s. Under a resettlement plan, more than 200,000 Bengalis were given land and new homes in the sparsely-populated district inhabited by over a dozen tribal and ethnic groups.

Officials claimed that the insurgents suffered a major setback when more than 3,500 Shanti Bahini guerrillas surrendered to Bangladesh authorities during an 18-month amnesty period that ended in April 1985.

Officials believe that many insurgents have crossed over to Indian territory, and blame India for giving sanctuary and support to them — an allegation that New Delhi had denied.

SRI LANKA

Continuing Reportage on Tamil Clashes, Situation

Security Minister: More Bombings

BK261216 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Police yesterday warned traders against bombs that could be slipped into their supplies as investigators look for the owner and driver of a truck that brought a bomb to Colombo from Jaffna on Saturday [24 May]. This bomb, weighing about 5 kg, was discovered when a laborer unloading the goods found a bag of chilies unusually heavy. The army bomb disposal squad found the live bomb concealed in the sack.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said that terrorists were planning more bomb attacks on civilians to provoke a backlash in the south. According to the police, since the bomb discovery the driver and cleaner of the vehicle were missing. Police have questioned about 25 people in the course of their investigation.

'Terrorists' Actions in North, East

BK251128 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] An 8-year-old girl was killed and two women were injured when terrorists raided the village of Kala in Batticaloa on Friday night. LANKA PUWATH, quoting security sources, also said that a Sinhalese villager in Trincomalee has been shot dead by terrorists. A gang of about 10 terrorists armed with rifles and submachine guns had entered the home of M.E. Alesighe. Terrorists had opened fire when the man had argued with them. Home guards in the area had then moved in and attacked the terrorist gang.

Yesterday, five villagers were killed and six others injured when terrorists attacked the village of Silmorah in Trincomalee. Police have recovered four bundles of Tamil Eelam literature from an abandoned well at Senapura, about 6 miles from Puttalam town. A terrorist was shot dead by security forces after he hurled a grenade at them at Khuddaitala in Kalmunai. The security forces were returning after a road-clearing operation when the incident occurred.

Marxist-oriented separatist terrorists made one of several futile attacks on the security forces detachment in Jaffna, northern Sri Lanka, last Friday night. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that the attack was effectively repulsed. One soldier sustained minor injuries while casualties among terrorists are not known. R. Padmanadhan, a Marxist-oriented separatist belonging to the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization, who attempted to flee on a motorcycle, was captured by security forces at Attimalai junction, Batticaloa, in eastern Sri Lanka last evening. According to security sources, Padmanadhan's companion, who was in the pillion, was captured by the troops when he attempted to escape.

32 Killed in Sinhapura

BK251325 Hong Kong AFP in English 1301 GMT 25 May 86

[By Neville de Silva]

[Excerpts] Sinhapura, Sri Lanka, May 25 (AFP) — Militant Tamil separatists attacked this small Sinhalese agricultural village early Sunday, killing 20 people and burning about 25 houses, survivors said. The twisted bodies of 10 people lay on a dirt road where they were lined up by Tamil assailants and shot. Three of the dead were children under the age of 10. Three women and a 13-year-old boy were also among the victims.

Villagers told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE they had left the bodies where they fell, awaiting the arrival of a magistrate who was to conduct a formal inquiry.

A total of 32 members of the majority Sinhalese community were killed in weekend attacks on Sinhapura and other nearby villages which make up the Mahadivullewa settlement development, a military spokesman said in Trincomalee Sunday.

Government officials said the attacks appeared to be an attempt by Tamil separatists to ease military pressure on their northern strongholds.

Survivors of the attack on Sinhapura told AFP they were summoned from their homes shortly after midnight by armed men who pretended to be looking for Tamil militants. The villagers were lined up, told to sit down, and shot, witnesses said. Those who did not die immediately were shot again, they added.

Sinhapura, about a five-minute helicopter ride from the coastal city of Trincomalee, was the hardest hit of the five villages struck by Tamil militants.

Survivors said gunmen began killing as soon as they entered the village. Many who survived the attacks said they were awakened by gunfire and hid in nearby scrub. When the Tamil militants came to deserted houses they torched them, several residents said.

The attacks on the villages have caused some residents, many of whom were settled in the area by the government, to flee. Other settlers, who total about 200 families, said they want government protection. "Give us protection. Keep some soldiers here. We want to live," several residents pleaded to high-ranking security officials who toured the area.

"The terrorists are trying to drive the Sinhala settlers away. The terrorists don't want a political settlement," one official said. "They are killing even innocent civilians and trying to drive the Sinhalese away from the Eastern Province."

Militant members of Sri Lanka's 2.5-million Tamil minority have been waging a campaign to establish a separate state on the north and east of the island, alleging discrimination at the hands of the Sinhala majority.

Security Increased After Attack

BK261202 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Sri Lanka has strengthened security around isolated Sinhala villages on the east coast today, after Tamil separatist terrorists killed 32 people during the weekend.

Defense secretary, General Sepala Attygalle, ordered a review of security arrangements in the region. He said after the attacks security forces were on alert across the country because of signs rebel's plan to [words indistinct] to disrupt peace talks.

Fifteen women and children were among 20 people brutally gunned down at Mahadivullewa in the Trincomalee District by Marxist separatist terrorists early yesterday morning. A military spokesman said that there were five men, seven women and eight children among the victims. Two of the women with gunshot injuries who survived the attacks were flown to Colombo for urgent medical attention.

The attack was similar in its ruthlessness to the Anuradhapura massacre a year ago, the Keng and Dola farm shootings and the carnage in the fishing villages of Kokilai and Nayaru, the spokesman said.

The joint operations command in Colombo said the villagers were asleep when the terrorists crept up on them. The houses were first set ablaze and they were mowed down by automatic fire as the inmates rushed out. Other victims included neighbors who unsuspectingly rushed up to help put out the blaze.

Trincomalee's coordinating officer, Brigadier Harshadimratne, said the campaign of terror was obviously aimed at frightening away Sinhalese who wish to return to their homes in the district.

A few hours before the Mahadivullewa attack terrorists had struck a hamlet named Gomarankadawela in the same area killing seven. Other attacks at Teruvila, Kallar, and Kalkudah within the same few hours brought the death toll to 32.

Further Commentary on Thatcher's Visit to Israel

Tehran Arabic

GF252043 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 25 May 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] From the era of Arthur Balfour to the rule of Margaret Thatcher, the Zionist entity developed from a mere promise to a political reality on the map. Despite the artificial existence of this entity on Palestinian soil historically and culturally, it became, within a period of 69 years, a painful reality on this soil. During this period, the Zionists managed to assemble themselves inside Palestine, declare their illegitimate state, and demand its security. If we ask how this happened, we would find the answer in the archives of Zionist-British relations. Britain is more than just a creater of this entity, which was a promise in the message of the British foreign secretary at the time to the world Jews. In his message, the British foreign secretary announced the British Government's desire to establish a national homeland for the Jews. The Britons sowed the Zionist seed on Palestinian soil and began to care for it and supply it with all means of life. The Britons converted this promise into reality and changed this gang into an entity. If we review the history of Zionist-British relations, we find that these relations passed through three phases:

First, Britain created the atmosphere suitable for establishing the Zionist mini-state on Palestinian soil. It provided the propaganda cover, created the expansionist sense for the Zionists, and began calling on all world Jews to emigrate to the land of Palestine.

Second, Britain took care of the Zionist entity which was in a weak position in a strange land and among Islamic people who could not accept partition of the land. The Zionist entity needed the support of others. The Britons remained in Palestine until 1948 when the enemy grew and gained strength. When it was able to stand on its feet, the Britons terminated the mandate and recognized the foundling Israel as an independent entity on Palestinian soil.

Since 1948 Britain has supported the Zionist aggression with various means and ways so that the Zionist entity would become a reality which all countries of the region would recognize. In light of this policy, came British efforts to support the Zionist existence. Part of these efforts is the visit to the enemy of Margaret Thatcher, described as the first visit to the Zionist entity by a British prime minister. What are the aims of this visit? Thatcher answers this question by saying that it is designed to bring security and peace to Israel and its neighboring countries. Those who are familiar with the situation of the enemy know that for a long time it has held the slogan of Israeli security. The enemy included in the list of security everything relevant to the Zionist existence on Palestinian soil and all of its requirements and the actions it attempts to perpetrate.

Zionist security is an expanded slogan to justify all enemy actions and all the aid given to it by others. When the enemy faces a financial crisis, it rushes to inform the big powers that its existence is in jeopardy and that these countries should provide generous support for it. In light of this, Zionist security is a justification more than a reality. A justification in the hand of the enemy to practice its policy, and a justification in the hand of the big powers to support this enemy, which asserts Thatcher's visit to the Zionist entity will not be limited to one issue and will not end in the provision of one kind of assistance. Thatcher found in Tel Aviv a long list of Zionist demands. Will all of these demands be fulfilled? Did all of the problems and crises end in Britain so that she may begin resolving the Zionist entity's insoluable problems?

KEYHAN AL-'ARABI

GF261020 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 May 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Under the headline "From Balfour to Thatcher," the newspaper *KEYHAN AL-'ARABI* comments on the visit of Thatcher to occupied Palestine. The paper says that the internal pressures to which British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is being subjected, due to the failure of her party's economic policy and its full adherence to the U.S. strategy, has resulted in the Conservative Party losing popularity in British society in favor of the Labor Party and other small parties. Thatcher is trying to gain on the Labor Party — which is associated with the Zionist Labor Party — by attaining an alliance through the Socialist International. Thatcher came to occupied Palestine to pull the rug out from under the Labor Party and to attain a number of political and economic goals. Among the goals are the following:

1. To revive the Western presence in the Mediterranean basin and the Middle East in addition to reactivating Western investments in such a way that attains the interests of the international monopolist companies;
2. To reach an understanding about implementing a Marshal Plan in the Middle East which was proposed by enemy Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. This plan is designed to intensify the Western presence in the region or to invade the region economically.

3. To coordinate positions with the Peres government in order to deal a blow to Syria and create new situations in the Middle East that would link direct talks between the Arabs and Israel and to establish an international umbrella that would include the EEC countries and the United States.

This visit reveals how some Arab reactionary regime are dragging their feet with regard to adopting a unified Arab-Islamic position toward this conspiratorial visit.

'Political Followup' Program

GF271754 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 27 May 86

[From the "Political Followup" program]

[Excerpts] Dear listener. It is our belief that the [British] prime minister is attempting to distract the attention of the British people from their problems by moving them, through her political initiatives, to other parts of the world. Thus she deludes the British citizen that the restoration of Britain's glory through Margaret Thatcher requires him to sacrifice some of his comfort.

By doing so, she appears to be attempting to arouse the patriotic feelings of her people while pulling the carpet from underneath the opposition, which has always expressed accusation to the British Government, and revealed her weakness in facing the internal crisis.

Thatcher's choosing of the occupied Palestine as the stop for her present political activity was not successful for many reasons, the most important of which are:

1. The Palestinian issue slipped from the British hand a long time ago despite the British role in establishing the Zionist entity and the promise of [former] British Prime Minister Balfour to create a national state for the Jews in Palestine. Therefore, Thatcher is weaker in resolving the Palestinian issue or drafting plans to contain the Arab-Zionist conflict after Washington became involved in the game and its solution.

Washington did not leave a role for any other mediator to play in the scene of events there, so that it will not have a partner in planning and implementation to demand a share of the gains in the future.

2. If Britain was to play such role, it would not be able to go beyond U.S. convictions and, in turn, would not bring about anything new. Therefore Thatcher's visit has no significant political meaning in relation to a peaceful resolution. Perhaps the statements of British officials carried this fact as they asserted that Thatcher does not have any plan for peace in the Middle East.

3. People of the region who closely watch the moves will deal with Thatcher's visit with a spirit of disgust and dissatisfaction which will reflect on relations between those peoples and Britain.

Qatar Wants Withdrawal From Fasht al-Dibal, Hawar

GF250807 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] AFP has quoted so-called official Qatari sources as saying that Qatar has accepted the Saudi plan to resolve the dispute between it and Bahrain and has decided to withdraw its forces from Fasht al-Dibal Island, on condition that this is carried out simultaneously with the withdrawal of Bahraini forces from Hawar Island, which is located near the Qatari shores. The sources added that a GCC delegation which includes Saudi representatives and military observers from Kuwait, the UAE, and Oman, will supervise the implementation of the Qatari-Bahraini agreement.

Qatar occupied Fasht al-Dibal Island about 1 month ago. The issue of the ownership of the Hawar and Fasht al-Dibal Islands and (Qararah) has been for 10 years a source of disputes between Qatar and Bahrain.

New PRC Ambassador Meets With Hashemi-Rafsanjani

GF260558 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The new PRC ambassador called on Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Majlis, yesterday afternoon. Hashemi-Rafsanjani told the PRC ambassador that we expect the PRC leaders to play an active role in confronting the recent plot to reduce oil prices and to help neutralize this plot by cooperating with all oil-producing countries. Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that if the oil-producing countries only reduced their oil production by 10 percent, then the damage done by the reduced oil prices would be compensated within a few months.

Reviewing the areas of cooperation between Iran and the PRC, the Majlis speaker said: We are satisfied with our existing relations, and we expect that these relations will further expand in the near future.

The PRC ambassador, after conveying the warm greetings and best wishes of PRC leaders to the leaders of the Islamic Republic, stressed the need for greater expansion of PRC-Iranian relations. He said that during his meetings with PRC leaders before coming to Iran all of them had expressed the desire for expanded relations between the two countries. They place great importance in these relations.

The ambassador said that the PRC is willing to place its experience at the disposal of our friend, the friendly state of Iran, in all fields. The new PRC ambassador recalled last year's visit by the Iranian Majlis speaker to the PRC and said the visit was very important.

Meets With Prime Minister

LD271008 Tehran IRNA in English 0945 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA — The new Chinese ambassador to Iran, Wand Benzuo, met and conferred with Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi here Tuesday. Conveying warm and sincere messages of the officials of the People's Republic of China to the officials of the Islam Republic of Iran, the new ambassador stressed further expansion of bilateral relations.

In reply, the prime minister noted that there were common political and international grounds which promised a brighter prospect for the mutual relations. Referring to the preliminary preparations for holding the Iran and China economic commission, Prime Minister Musavi expressed hope that formation of the commission would help implementation of previous agreements.

Musavi: Al-Faw Victory Diminished Iraqi Status

LD241845 Tehran IRNA in English 1823 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA — Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi told a group of Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) commanders here Saturday that their great victory in Al-Faw had largely diminished the political and military stature of the Iraqi regime in the world. "Attempts by our enemies to whitewash their failure have resulted in nothing but continued losses for them", he noted.

The premier said that Saddam Husayn has faced setback one after another in his attempts to prove to his supporters he is still a worthwhile ally, but that even they have grown weary of continued backing for his ill-fated aggression.

Musavi said that Iraq's victories are merely claims on paper and the loudspakers whereas the Muslim combatants of Iran are the actual victors in areas and battles claimed by Iraq to have been won.

Further Reportage on Rahmani Visit to Libya

Meets Libyan Armed Forces Chief

LD241239 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Mr Rahmani, official in charge of the Mobilization of the Oppressed Unit [Basij] of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], who is on a visit to brother country Libya at the head of a delegation consisting of Basij commanders, last night met with Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief the Libyan Armed Forces, at the Command Staff Headquarters of the Army, and delivered a message from Mohsen Reza'i commander of the IRGC, to Brigadier Jabir.

The commander in chief of Libya's Armed Forces, referring to the unity of the Islamic Revolution of Iran and the Libyan revolution, stated: We, in the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, alongside the Islamic Revolution of Iran form the frontline shield of support for the world Islamic movement everywhere; and this is exactly why United States imperialism and its allied mercenaries are struggling to violate these two revolutions. They have a good sense of the dangers that the harmony between the revolutions poses to the interests of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction in the region. Mr Abu Bakr, pointing to the U.S. aggression toward Libya and the defeat suffered by the United States, stated: The United States, using terrorism as a pretext, intended to destroy the revolutionary stance and tendency of the region.

Mr Rahmani, expressing gladness at the United States' defeat in its attack on the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the similarities between this and the ignominious U.S. defeat in Tabas, replied: The similarities between these aggressions demonstrates that the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah are in the same trench in the struggle against world imperialism. By refering to the defeat of the Iraqi Army in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations and the role of Basij forces in this war, he briefed Mr Abu Bakr on the organizational structure and people's training by the Basij unit and expounded on the latest victories in the war zones.

Mr Rahmani and the delegation accompanying him last night also met Col Mahri al-'Arabi, head of Libya's People's Forces and had a discussion with him. Yesterday also, Mr Rahmani, while visiting the Libyan Naval College, also learned about the training of students at this college.

Concludes 1-Week Visit

LD271307 Tehran IRNA in English 1243 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Tripoli, May 27, IRNA — Iran's head of para-military volunteer forces, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rahmani, left Tripoli Monday after a one-week visit and talks with top Libyan officials.

At the airport Rahmani told reporters that both countries shared a future policy of anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist struggle. "Muslim revolutionaries continue to stand together with common aim and in one bunker. They will continue efforts towards the great ideals of Islam that are the liberation of the oppressed and the creation of social justice" he said.

Accompanying him to the airport were Libya's Colonel Faraj, the head of the ground forces, Colonel Mehdi Maqrebi the head of the popular army, and Sa'id Hafiyaneh the deputy head of the People's Foreign Relations Committee.

During his stay, Rehmani met top military officials and visited Libya's army centers including the officers college in Tripoli where he was awarded an emblem.

Iran's volunteer forces was created after the 1979 Islamic Revolution on the order of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution, who dubbed the force as a "20-million-member-army". In 1980 after war broke out between Iraq and Iran the volunteer army, known for its heroism in the battlefield, became the bullwork of the Iranian offensives.

Officials in Tehran have said they are prepared to share the military experience of the force with friendly countries. Libya is one among several Arab allies of Iran.

Armed Forces Chiefs on Bayt al-Moqaddas Offensive

LD242011 Tehran IRNA in English 1736 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA — A seminar was held to review the Bayt al-Moqaddas offensive Saturday at the headquarters of the Joint Staff.

Commanders of the Armed Forces and operational planners and chiefs of the offensive participated in the seminar.

Bayt al-Moqaddas offensive was launched on 24 May 1982 in Khuzestan Province where the Iraqi forces suffered heavy losses including 17,500 captives and 16,000 killed and wounded. Some 5,400 sq kms of the Iranian territory were liberated.

In this meeting Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi said that from the military point of view all the objectives of the offensive had been achieved. Colonel 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi, commander of the ground forces and Hojjat ol-Eslam Safa'i, head of the politico-ideological department of the army also spoke at the seminar.

Safa'i said, "The Muslim nations should know how the army has conducted the war." He said if the Iranian people we do not write their own history, others would write it with malicious prejudice.

IRGC Commander Congratulates Victorious Combatants

LD251610 Tehran IRNA in English 1549 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) Commander Mohsen Reza'i sent laudatory messages Sunday to Muslim combatants for their recent victories in Faqqeh and Hajj 'Umran battlefronts. In separate messages to participating units of the two fronts, Reza'i expressed hope that Afghan refugees, Egyptian youth and the oppressed Lebanese would learn how to better resist.

The IRGC commander also congratulated the combatants on behalf of Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the Islamic Revolution and commander-in-chief of the armed forces saying that the victory in Faqqeh and Hajj 'Umran fronts are among those heroic triumphs in the history of five-and-a-half-year old year war.

SAIRI Chairman Implies Egypt, Jordan Aiding Iraq

GF240607 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 24 May 86

[Excerpts] Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed Mohammad Baqer Hakim, SAIRI chairman, in an interview with the Central News Unit correspondent in Qom, spoke about the sporadic attacks by Iraq in Mehran and Faqqeh regions. He said this shows the indecision of the regime after the losses it sustained in the "Val-Fajr-8" operations.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim spoke on the possible employment of Egyptian and Jordanian mercenaries by the Saddam regime in war against the Islamic Republic. He said that in view of lack of Iraqi popular support for the Saddam regime and a shortage of personnel in the Iraqi army due to repeated defeats, it is possible that Saddam would extend his begging hand to Egyptian and Jordanian soldiers.

Speaking on Egyptian and Jordanian (?fear) of the Islamic revolution, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hakim said these regimes have covert cooperation with the criminal Israeli regime, which is well known. They have been colluding with Saddam in every move against the Islamic Republic. If they hire out their soldier mercenaries to Saddam, they will further expose their covert relations with Israel and their real relations with Saddam.

Iraq Conscipting Egyptians Into Military Service

LD240903 Tehran IRNA in English 0756 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Ilam, Ilam Prov., May 24, IRNA — With Iraq's civil service force rapidly being depleted the regime is now impressing Egyptian nationals and even females into military service, an Iraqi POW taken captive in Mehran region said Friday. The POW 1st Lt. Hakem Haj-Kavir Kazem of 2d Battalion of Iraqi Brigade 417 (Division 28), told IRNA that a considerable portion was smashed in Iran's Liberation of the port city of Al-Faw. He said this fact cannot but gradually revealed.

The POW said that privileges previously granted to the families of the killed soldiers at the beginning of the war, no longer are available, and that according to a new law the old, the young and even young adults are sent to the fronts. The POW said that corruption is so pervasive in Iraq that those who respect and observe the Islamic principles are accused of cooperating with Islamic groups and as a result will be harassed by the authorities. Both the accused and his family suffer from such pressure he added.

Iraq is dependent on financial help from the Persian Gulf countries to continue its rule. the POW said. He added that Iraq engages in desperate attacks in the fronts to boost the morale of both its soldiers and the nation, however, they all prove to be futile.

The Iraqi lieutenant said that some 70 percent of his battalion (2) was destroyed when he was taken prisoner. He thanked his Iranian captors for their 'brotherly' treatment.

Honorary IRGC Guards Depart for Battlefronts

LD241212 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Following the announcement by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] on its readiness to recruit honorary guards, this morning, the first convoy of honorary and irregular warfare guards from the IRGC, from the Province of Mazendaran and other parts throughout the country, forming a convoy called: the Standard Bearers of Labayk Ya Imam, composed of 700 combat-specialized and trained forces from the Imam Hasan base of Tehran, departed for the battlefronts of the imposed war.

Convoys Depart Esfahan, Hamadan, Provinces

LD251237 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 May 86

[Unidentified correspondent report from Yasuj on 25 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] On the occasion of the happy anniversary of Holy Imam Hasan, may peace be upon him, the sixth convoy of Karbala' marchers and the third convoy of Labayk ya Imam departed from the Bovir Ahmadi va Kohkiluyeh Ostan-e to the battlefronts of light against darkness this morning.

According to the Central News Unit, a huge convoy composed of one brigade of combatant forces of the townships of Yasuj, Bustan, Gachsaran and the villages in the environs of Deh Bozorg-e Sisakht Bask, Badla, Julahi, Zila'i [words indistinct] Bishahr and other parts of this combatant-nurturing province, departed for the battlefronts of justice against injustice.

The third convoy of (Labayk ya Imam) and the fifth convoy of Karbala' marchers from Esfahan, composed of one division of volunteer combat-specialized forces, today, left from the 15th Khordad base of this city, for the battlefronts of war.

Also three battalions of combative specialist and administrative forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of the Hamadan District, left for the theaters of war from this district.

2,000 Technical Experts Leave Fars for Battlefront

LD261815 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] The fourth Karbala' convoy and the second Labbayk ya Imam convoy from Fars Province left Shiraz for the battlefronts this afternoon. According to a Central News Unit report, the convoys comprising 2,000 trained and redispatched technical experts, left for the fronts in 2,000 motor cars. [as heard]

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,483

LD271642 Tehran IRNA in English 1630 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters bombed Iraq's Dukan power station at 35.57 North and 44.57 East coordinates at 05:26 hours (01:56 hours GMT) Tuesday inflicting substantial damage on it, and returning safely to their bases, said a military communique here Tuesday.

The Joint Staff Communique number 2483 said that Iranian navy patrols intercepted and inspected 11 oil tankers and cargo ships sailing under foreign flags in the Hormuz Strait Sunday but allowed them to continue voyage after being satisfied that they were not carrying any war-related goods for the Iraqi regime.

The communique said that Muslim forces of Iran smashed an Iraqi offensive in Hajj 'Umran and Height number 2519 early Tuesday inflicting heavy casualties and losses on them. Artillery duels between the warring troops still continues.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts Monday raging more intensely in Hajj 'Umran, Sumar, Mehran, Zobeydah and Majnun Islands killing and wounding many Iraqi soldiers and demolishing parts of enemy positions, said the Joint Staff.

In the northwestern and western fronts, the communique said, three tanks, four 152-mm artillery pieces, three supply and engineering vehicles and one heavy mortar launcher of Iraqi forces were destroyed and four enemy munitions dumps as well as two trucks were set ablaze. Long range artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants hit Iraqi oil installations in Banmil Monday and Tuesday, said the communique.

According to the communique Iranian forces checked operations of Iraqi helicopters in Nahre-Anbar, and elsewhere in Sharhani they minimized enemy transport and reinforcement operations.

In Sumar and Kani-Sheikh, the communique said, Muslim forces prevented Iraqi troops from setting up mine fields or fortifying their positions. Movements of Iraqi armoured units were also checked.

Meanwhile 30 shops and houses in Abadan and some residential buildings in Piranshahr West Azarbayjan Province were damaged as they were hit by the long-range artillery fire of the Iraqi forces Monday.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 MAY 1986

Syria

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin during which questions were examined of "stepping up" cooperation in "strengthening" Syria's "defense capability" in view of the "increased threats" emanating from the United States and Israel against Syria, Moscow television reported. In the course of the discussion, Gorbachev asked Khaddam to convey a message to President Hafiz al-Asad affirming the USSR's stand with Syria and its policy against imperialism and Zionism, according to Damascus radio, and it noted that Khaddam also conveyed a message to Gorbachev from Al-Asad regarding the regional situation.

In further reportage on Khaddam's meeting with USSR Supreme Soviet Chairman Andrey Gromyko, Damascus radio revealed that the two sides made a detailed review of the "aggressive U.S.-Israeli threats" against Syria, while Moscow radio's Arabic service noted that the sides expressed their concern over the U.S.' "rash policy." The radio also disclosed that the Soviet side praised Syria's "anti-imperialist policy" and its "firm confrontation" of the U.S. and Israeli "military-political pressure," and affirmed the Soviet Union's intention to continue providing Syria with "comprehensive assistance and support" in the "struggle" against imperialism and Zionism. In a speech cited by Damascus radio during a banquet later the same day, Khaddam asserted that the United States and Israel would be mistaken to believe that they could force Syria to abandon "struggle" for the "liberation" of the "occupied Arab territories," and warned that there will be no "capitulatory settlement" in the Middle East. Although acknowledging the "dimension" of the "danger" confronting Syria, Khaddam emphasized that this will not deter Syria from pursuing its "patriotic progressive course," according to TASS. In his speech, Gromyko referred to the "many-sided" cooperation existing between the two countries and reiterated the Soviet Union's determination to continue rendering "support and help" to Syria, according to another TASS report. Gromyko denounced the U.S. policy of "neoglobalism," TASS reported, which he claimed was aimed at imposing U.S. "hegemony" on the nations, and asserted that the "undisguised threats" against Syria are another manifestation of that policy.

Damascus radio reported Al-Asad's arrival in Damascus following a 3-day official visit to Greece, contradicting an earlier Athens radio report that he was departing Greece for Romania.

In another development, Defense Minister Mustafa Talas in comments to French radio cited by AFP revealed that Syria has conducted negotiations with the kidnappers of the Western hostages in Lebanon and that Al-Asad asked Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i to help in securing their release. Talas asserted that had Syria known the whereabouts of the French hostages, it would have freed them, even by "force," according to the report, and he claimed that the U.S. attack on Libya and its "threats" against Syria have delayed the release of the French hostages "for a certain time."

Iraq

Although acknowledging the mediation efforts of Jordan's King Husayn, Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, while in Kuwait, described as "premature" talk of an Iraqi-Syrian summit, according to Radio Monte Carlo, and he noted that "many issues" between the two countries still have to be dealt with. However, "well-connected Arab sources" cited by the Kuwaiti paper *AL-SIYASAH* disclosed that King Husayn has "principally succeeded" in achieving agreement between the Iraqi and Syrian presidents to hold a summit in Amman "shortly." Meanwhile, "informed sources" cited by Radio Monte Carlo asserted that the main aim of Jordan's mediation between Iraq and Syria is to "clear the atmosphere" between the two countries so that an Arab summit can be convened. On the other hand, a commentary carried by Voice of the Masses radio accused Syria of playing a role of "sabotage on Lebanese and Arab levels," and asserted that Syrian President al-Asad is the "intimate ally" of the enemies of Arabism and the Arab nation.

As for the foreign minister's 28 May visit to Kuwait, 'Aziz met with the Kuwaiti amir to whom he delivered a letter from President Saddam Husayn and also met with his Iraqi counterpart, according to INA and KUNA reports. 'Aziz departed for Saudi Arabia later the same day where he held talks with Saudi Crown Prince 'Abdallah and delivered a message for Saudi King Fahd from President Husayn, SPA reported.

Libya

On the third day of his visit to the Soviet Union, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud held final talks with USSR Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov during which there was an "in-depth" discussion regarding long-term economic ties and "further steps" to strengthen Libya's "defense capability" in light of the continuing U.S. "military pressure" on the Jamahiriyah. Later, Jallud held talks with USSR Defense Minister Sergey Sokolov, according to JANA, which, TASS noted, passed in an atmosphere of "friendship and mutual understanding."

PLO

"Informed Palestinian sources" cited by the Dubayy paper *AL-BAYAN* asserted that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has "acceded" to the wish of the Fatah Central Committee to "abolish" the Amman agreement "soon." In related reportage, the Riyadh paper *AL-RIYADH* reported that the Soviet Union recently informed representatives of Palestinian factions opposed to Fatah that Fatah would abolish the agreement if the factions were to agree to a dialogue leading to Palestinian unity and the convocation of a new PNC session, according to "informed sources." Meanwhile, an official PLO spokesman condemned UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's recent statement in Israel on the "need" for "substitutes" for the PLO in any Middle East peace negotiation, and reaffirmed that the PLO is the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Sudan

In a statement to Radio Monte Carlo in New York where he is attending the UN General Assembly session on Africa, Foreign Minister Al-Sharif al-Hindi revealed that Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi will travel to Addis Ababa "within a few days" for talks with Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam and SPLA leader John Garang, at Mengistu's invitation.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqis sustained "very heavy losses" during a "relatively severe battle" with the Iranians in the Karareh region, Hajj 'Umran operational sector, according to a communique cited by Tehran radio, which asserted that the clash ended with the Iraqis' withdrawal from the area. For Iraq's part, a military spokesman claimed that Iraqi fighters bombed Iranian troop concentrations in the Dezful and Shushtar areas, "wiping out large numbers" of them, in a statement carried by Voice of the Masses radio.

Israel

In further developments regarding the affair of the Shin Bet director, a "senior Likud minister" cited by Jerusalem television claimed that the "event" was "approved" by Yitzhaq Shamir who was prime minister at the time, and subsequently supported by the then opposition leader Shim'on Peres. On the other hand, in an interview broadcast by IDF radio, Shamir, in response to a question regarding his alleged involvement and knowledge of the "affair," asserted that he knew what a prime minister "is supposed to know" and stressed he "acted accordingly." Knesset member Refa'el Goren said it was his impression after a talk with Shamir 28 May that what took place was on a "local level" and that no order was given for the killings or the cover-up, according to the same television report. Jerusalem radio disclosed that Peres rejected a proposal made by the attorney general "several weeks ago" to dismiss the Shin Bet director in order to avoid an investigation.

In a separate development, Energy Minister Moshe Shahal announced that France "terminated" negotiations with Israel over the sale of a nuclear reactor allegedly due to the pressure of French companies with commercial links with Arab countries, Jerusalem radio reported.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported a "mass migration" from the Burj al-Barajinah camp 29 May in the wake of renewed fighting there between Amal and Palestinians. A 28 May Voice of Lebanon radio report claimed that 11 persons were killed and 50 wounded in the clashes.

Pakistan

Twenty-five persons were detained, including seven Libyans and an unspecified number of Iranians, in connection with the 27 May bombings in Karachi, Tokyo KYODO reported. In a statement to Riyadh SPA, an official Saudi "source" noted Saudi Arabia's condemnation of these "wrong modes of behavior" and declared that they will not deter it from pursuing its known stands vis-a-vis the Arab and Islamic nation's causes.

OPEC Affairs

The Saudi charge d'affaires in Tehran delivered a written message for Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i from Saudi King Fahd in which Fahd expressed Saudi Arabia's "readiness" to carry out the "necessary cooperation" in connection with the "recovery of the oil situation."

Egypt

Cairo papers cited by MENA reported on a "radiation leak" from a cobalt device at Cairo University following the theft of some of the lead covering the device and from attempts to lift it. However, a subsequent statement by the Nuclear Energy Organization broadcast by Cairo radio stressed that an inspection of the site revealed that there was "no" radioactive leak or contamination, and asserted that the situation is "quite safe."

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Ghazni City Youths Killed in Hotel Explosion

LD281747 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 86

[Excerpts] On 26 May the savage counterrevolution martyred four of our compatriots and wounded three others by planting a mine inside the Farukhi Hotel, near Alberuni Street in Ghazni city. the victims of this tragedy include youths and children.

A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Ghazni that the city's inhabitants, on seeing those martyred and wounded, cursed the perpetrators of this painful incident and strongly condemned this savage and inhuman action of the rebels, which was carried out on the instruction of their imperialist masters, headed by the criminal U.S. imperialism.

Najibullah Addresses DYOA Anniversary Meeting

LD281154 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 27, BAKHTAR — Tomorrow begins from today. The prosperity of the future belongs to our today's efforts. The future will be the way you make it. This was stated by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA CC at the 10th anniversary celebration of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan, DYOA, which was marked here today.

He added that learning is the cardinal duty of the Afghan youth. The learning of a profession, science and the preservation of the best traditions of their parents and fore-fathers constitute the obligations of the youth towards their ancestors.

We have now embarked upon the implementation of the first post-revolution five year socio-economic development plan. The plan has envisaged the promotion of the standard of living for every family. This requires rigorous and laborious work and everybody should contribute his best for the implementation of the plan. The youth who are the most energetic section of our society must take an ever wider part in it, Comrade Najibullah emphasised.

It is imperative for the youth, said Comrade Najibullah, to expand their role in the defence of the revolution. The athletic and military camps should be set up in the detachments of the Armed Forces. The DYOA should have its own branches in the residential areas of the tribes. The tribal youth should be trained with the spirit of combat traditions of the Pushtuns, Baluchis and Nooristani's in the border provinces. General secretary of the PDPA called upon the youth to take ever-greater participation in safeguarding the borders of the country.

Revolution means the society's historical innovations and transformations. Such innovations, said Comrade Najibullah, not only should concentrate on the struggle against old, decadent and reactionary phenomena but also to preserve the best traditions of the society. The new generation must transfer the best values of the Afghan society to the future generation.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is a young party and receives its strength from the youth and their revolutionary initiatives. Sixty percent of the ranks of the PDPA is composed of young people aged up to thirty years. One out of two youths who have been admitted to the party is a graduate of the DYOA school. It could not be the other way because the PDPA is a party which is devoted to struggle against anything which obstructs progress and innovations.

The Central Committee of the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the Government of the DRA have appraised the great part taken by the DYOA in the mobilisation of the youth for defending the country and the gains of the April revolution. Decision has been made to confer upon the DYOA the red banner to recognise and honour its struggle against the counter-revolution, concluded general secretary of the PDPA, CC.

Keshtmand Speech

LD290656 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0454 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 28, BAKHTAR: The sport festival of youths of Kabul was opened in the national stadium on the 10th anniversary of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan, DYOA, today.

Addressing the participants of the festival, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA CC and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, said that Afghanistan is direly in need of healthy, willful and patriotic youths. The party and state of the DRA pay serious attention to the social and moral training of the youths of the country.

The present festival, held with the participation of tens of thousands of youths, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand went on to say, shows that the youth are ever further oriented toward sport and they are confidently getting ready for the future struggles. Under the present conditions, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand continued, defending the country and ensuring national peace seriously require patriotic and military training and readiness of the youths of the country.

In the festival that was arranged in three parts, over 70,000 athletes from different military, civil and educational institutions had participated. When the athletes of the armed forces of the country carried out athletic movements, a group of parachutists of the armed forces of the country dropped in the national stadium. The festival which is held in three parts of olympic, national and local, and military sports, is continuing.

The Democratic Youth Organisation of the DRA, having a membership of 200,000 youth celebrated the tenth year of its founding by launching work contests, competitions in professional skills and sports festivals this year.

DYOA Achieves Success in Mobilizing Youth

LD230655 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 22, BAKHTAR — The ranks of the Democratic Youth Organisation of Afghanistan (DYOA) having friendly relations with over 240 international progressive organisations, have been strengthened qualitatively and quantitatively after the victory of the April Revolution. The DYOA has totally

150 thousand members. This was stated by Farid Muzdak, first secretary of the CC of the DYOA in a press conference held on the occasion of the 10th founding anniversary of the DYOA.

Speaking on the activities of the DYOA for the sound training of young generation and for the implementation of the objectives of the PDPA and the April Revolution, Farid Muzdak added that the DYOA scored great achievements in mobilizing the youth and promotion of their role in revolutionary developments taking place in Afghanistan as well as social, economic and cultural fields.

Over 25.000 youth, Farid Muzdak went on to say, have voluntarily joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of the DRA in order to defend the revolution and to intensify struggle against the imperialistic undeclared war, in the last two Afghan years. Besides, they have established militant brigades in struggling against counter-revolutionary bandits. Likewise, over 2,000 youth, members of the DYOA have voluntarily joined the border forces of the country.

The Afghan youth, by setting up work and construction brigades are actively and collectively participating, he said, in the growth of national economy of the country and implementing socio-economic programmes of the party and revolutionary state.

The number of work and construction brigades of the DYOA, the first secretary of the DYOA CC stressed, increased six-fold in the past five years and over 5,000 students have joined in these brigades last year alone ended March 20, 1986.

In the field of culture, he said, that over 100 thousand persons had been enrolled in literacy courses set by the DYOA. In the eve of the 10th founding anniversary of the DYOA, over 25,000 youth have joined to the DYOA, over 30 per cent of the whole members of the DYOA are peasants.

Commerce Ministry Details Foodstuff Supplies

LD250625 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0436 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 24, BAKHTAR: The Food procurement department of the Commerce Ministry of the DRA, provides primary necessities to the people at price cheaper than in the open market, says an article published in Daily *KABUL NEW TIMES*.

It sold about 160,000 tons of foodstuffs during the last Afghan year (ended March 20, 1986), and will sell 215,000 tons of foodstuffs during the current Afghan year, ended March 1986. The department sells its goods through 54 stores in the capital and 17 stores in the provinces. Also, for meeting workers' needs, 12 stores have been set up in some production institutions the article adds.

Besides supplying foodstuffs to 280,000 coupon holders, the department also helps to hold the prices line by selling primary articles to people without coupon through state stores. At present there are 17 state free stores functioning in the capital providing the materials cheaper than in the free market.

The state in addition to providing other facilities to its officials and employees, gives, 71 percent subsidy on flour.

Twenty five to thirty thousand tons of foodstuffs are available in the markets of the city at the moment. At present, 20 markets of foodstuffs are operating in Kabul city and the prices vary according to the requirements of the season, the article concludes.

BAKHTAR Notes Improvements in Agricultural Yields

LD270630 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 26, BAKHTAR — About sixty thousand hectares of land were cultivated improved wheat and barley during the autumn sowing campaign in the last Afghan year, ended March 20, 1986, in Helmand Province alone. This was told by a representative of the agricultural and land reform department of the province to a BAKHTAR correspondent. The wheat harvest will be higher by about 3,000 tons as compared with the last Afghan year. The peasants are satisfied with their yields, said one of the peasants of the Bolan village of the province.

The production has remarkable increased due to the material and technical assistance of the government including the distribution of land free of charge.

5 Killed, 12 Wounded by Police Fire in Darjeeling

BK260318 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] In West Bengal 5 persons have been killed and 12 others injured in police firing in Kurseong in Darjeeling District yesterday. Two of the seriously injured were rushed to the Darjeeling Sadar hospital.

According to official sources, the police opened fire in self defense when the Gurkha National Liberation Front [demanding a separate Gurkha state] supporters, observing a bundh [strike] in Mahanadi Bazaar in Kurseong, turned violent. The injured included some policemen and CRPF [Central Reserve Police Force] jawans [personnel].

The situation in the town is reported to be tense but under control.

Prohibitory orders under Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons at one place] have been imposed in the town. Regular traffic between Darjeeling and Siliguri Hill (?Chord) Road was totally disrupted. However, plane services between New Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling via Kurseong remained normal.

The district magistrate and the superintendent of police have rushed to the town. The All India Gurkha League has demanded a judicial inquiry into the incident.

Indefinite Curfew Imposed

BK261250 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the entire Kurseong municipal area of West Bengal. All educational institutions, central and state government offices, and banks have been closed. However, the essential services have been exempted. Rail and road communication between Darjeeling and Siliguri via Kurseong remained suspended for the 2d day. Additional police and paramilitary forces have arrived and are now patrolling the curfew-bound areas.

The area was affected yesterday following violence in the wake of a bundh [strike]. Five persons were killed and 12 injured in police firing.

Village Protection Force Being Raised in Punjab

BK270335 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] In Punjab a voluntary village protection force is being raised to check terrorist activities. According to official sources, to begin with, such a force will be raised in the border districts of Amritsar and Gurdaspur. Ex-servicemen will get preference in the force.

Meanwhile, three policemen have been arrested on charges of having links with terrorists. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, they include head constables and a constable posted in Gurdaspur District. The Gurdaspur police have also nabbed three suspected terrorists.

As already reported, the condition of the Punjab planning minister, Mr Malkiat Singh, is stable after undergoing an emergency operation in a Canadian hospital to remove the bullets received by him during an attempt on his life. Mr Malkiat Singh was on a private visit to Canada. The attempt on his life was made on Monday while he was traveling in a car in Vancouver.

7 Extremists Arrested in Assam; Arms Recovered

BK240625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] In Assam seven extremists belonging to the so-called Assam People's Liberation Front have been arrested from a hideout in Tezpur. The arrested include the self-styled leader of the organization. The extremists were wanted in connection with a number of murder cases and attacks on policemen. Some arms and ammunition have been recovered from them.

Agreement To Reopen Border Rail Link With Pakistan

BK221614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 May 86

[Excerpt] Indian and Pakistani officials have agreed to reopen the Khokhrapar-Munnabao rail link on the Rajasthan border as soon as possible. This was stated in a joint press statement issued at the end of their talks in New Delhi today. The officials will remain in touch with each other to work out the modalities for reopening the link. An Indian railway delegation will also visit Pakistan in this connection next month or in July. During their 4 days of talks, the two sides exchanged information about the customs, immigration, and health check facilities which will be set up at Munnabao on the Indian side and Khokhrapar on the Pakistan side.

Both sides have to restore a certain length of the rail track. On the Indian side, only about 2 km need to be restored, while Pakistan has a slightly longer stretch to repair. India expects that when the delegations of the two sides meet next, Pakistan will be in a position to give a specific timetable for reopening the checkpost. At their talks in the capital, the two delegations also discussed measures to improve facilities for passengers at the Baga-Atari border.

SWAPO President Departs After 6-Day State Visit

BK270904 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The president of the South West African People's Organization [SWAPO], Mr Sam Nujoma, was accorded a warm send-off on his departure for Bombay from New Delhi this morning at the end of a 6-day state visit to the country. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, his cabinet colleagues, diplomats and other dignitaries were at the airport to see him off. Mr Nujoma will be leaving Bombay for Tehran this afternoon.

Libyans, Iranians Held for Airline Office Bombing

BK281249 Hong Kong AFP in English 1234 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Karachi, Pakistan, May 28 (AFP) — Pakistani police are holding seven Libyans and an unspecified number of Iranians in connection with bomb attacks on Tuesday on the local offices of the U.S. airline Panam and the Saudi Arabian airline Saudia, police sources said. A guard outside the Panam cargo office was blown to pieces and two others seriously wounded when a timebomb hidden in a plastic bag exploded. Within minutes three other explosions ripped through the Saudia office, injuring two others.

Police sources said last night's bombings were being linked to a similar blast on February 9 in a building used by the Pakistan-Libya holding company, a private joint venture. The company's Libyan deputy managing director was arrested on suspicion of taking part in terrorist activities in Pakistan. He is still detained in Karachi jail.

Atomic Energy Official: Radiation Level Decreasing

BK251002 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Chairman of the Pakistani Atomic Energy Commission Munir Ahmed Khan has said there has been no significant rise in radiation levels in Pakistani territory or its atmosphere because Pakistan is situated well away from Chernobyl.

Speaking to a news conference in Islamabad today, he said that as of the 10th of this month there was no noteworthy increase in radiation. However, there was a moderate increase from the 11th to the 17th of this month, which has already started coming down. He said a thorough analysis of the specimens of food and physical matter shows that so far there has been only a slight increase in radiation levels, which is not so significant. He said sophisticated instruments were used in measuring the level of radiation.

State Minister Returns From Visit to China

BK241540 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] The minister of state for justice and parliamentary affairs, Mir Nawaz Khan Warwat, has said that Sino-Pakistan relations have stood all tests of time and will grow in strength. In an interview on his return from Beijing, he commended China for supporting Pakistan's principled stand on the Afghanistan issue.

He led a Pakistani delegation to celebrations marking the 35th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Pakistan and China.

JANG: India, Israel Plan Attack on Nuclear Plant

GF281345 Lahore JANG in Urdu 24 May 86 p 1

[Text] London (JANG Foreign Desk) — A joint Indo-Israel plan has been finalized to attack the Pakistani nuclear plant at Kahuta. This attack may take place at any time. Israel believes that Pakistan is now quite close to manufacturing an atomic bomb and that once it is made, it would naturally help the Arab countries.

A report published in London has confirmed the news that the Government of Pakistan has strengthened its security measures around the nuclear installations at Kahuta. Air defense arrangements have also been carried out at these installations.

The report quotes an interview given by an Israeli leader which states that India and Israel, in their mutual interest, have devised a preemptive air attack on the Kahuta nuclear plant. The report adds that these two countries have a comprehensive plan to sabotage the Pakistani nuclear program.

This plan came to light when a Pakistani Air Force pilot trainee was arrested on charges of spying for Israel. The report adds that the Israeli intelligence department got this pilot enlisted in a Gulf emirate Air Force.

The officer had been sent to Pakistan twice to survey the Kahuta area. When he went to Pakistan for a third time he was arrested by the Pakistani authorities at the airport. A large amount of cash was found on his person. He was taken to Peshawar for interrogation but managed to escape with the help of a government servant. A large-scale hunt was launched by the government and he was arrested again as he tried to cross the border into India.

The report adds that Pakistani authorities suspect that a large number of Israeli agents, who have been trained in the United States, have infiltrated into Pakistani Government organizations. According to these sources, Israeli intelligence recruits agents from Third World countries who are then trained in the United States.

The report also added that an officer from the (Houston) American Academic Department revealed in a seminar held in Washington that Israel was doing its best to find out everything about Pakistan's nuclear capabilities and nuclear installations. A paper read at the seminar on this subject was later widely distributed in India.

The other day, when they attacked the Palestinian camps in Tunis, Israeli pilots made Pakistani authorities further tighten their security measures around Kahuta. Pakistani authorities do not reject the possibility of India and Israel jointly attacking Pakistan at any time.

Technical experts in Islamabad say that Israeli bombers would have to fly a distance of 1,000 miles without Indian cooperation. The possibility is, they say, that Israeli aircraft would first fly to India, then after refueling make their way to Kahuta, which would take them only a few minutes.

India would not attack Kahuta by itself, the experts say.

Pakistan, for its part, has installed ground-to-air missiles around Kahuta and a detachment of a commando force has also been assigned to look after the installations.

Continuing Reportage on Mujahidin Operations in DRA

Soviet Workers Killed, Captured

BK231552 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] According to a report, the mujahidin attacked a military convoy in the Bruzad area recently killing 14 soldiers and damaging a tank and an armored car.

A Soviet gunship guarding the convoy was also shot down.

Another report says the mujahidin attacked a security post in the Tiharkathoob area where some Soviets are working on a copper exploration project.

In this attack five Soviet engineers were killed and one captured.

Fighting in Oruzgan, Paktia

BK241336 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] According to a report from Afghanistan, the mujahidin shot down a gunship helicopter of the Soviet-Karmal regime near Dehrawat subdivisional headquarters in the central province of Oruzgan. This was one of 4 helicopters on a mission to locate a mujahidin center near Dehrawat village. The four crew members were killed.

According to another report, fierce fighting has been taking place in eastern Afghanistan for the last few days. The fighting began after the mujahidin attacked Soviet-Karmal troops in the Zian Khel area of Paktia Province. In retaliation, the Soviet-Karmal troops continuously bombedmujahidin centers on the outskirts of Jazi District.

SRI LANKA

Several Bombs Explode in Eastern Province

BK291115 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Several bombs were exploded in the Eastern Province to commemorate the death of a LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] leader known as Aruna. He was killed by the security forces a few weeks ago while attempting to smuggle arms and explosives from India for an offensive in the Batticaloa District.

Two civilians, two Muslims, and a Sinhalese died and three other Muslims were injured at a checkpoint of the Special Task Force [STE] at Chitanbe in Batticaloa on Monday night. The car had been ordered to halt at the checkpoint at about 2330 [1800 GMT] but had failed to do so.

The situation in Batticaloa had been tense that night as there had been several explosions. As the vehicle had tried to pass through, there had been a couple of explosions in the vicinity and the STF had opened fire at the car suspecting that the vehicle was transporting terrorists. The survivors later told the security forces that they had requested the driver to stop at the checkpoint, but he had ignored their request and attempted to get away for some unknown reason.

Army Outposts Established To Protect Villagers

BK271137 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Army has decided to establish a temporary Army outpost in the Mahadivullewa for the protection of the villagers in the area. There are about 340 farming families residing in what is known as the Mahadivullewa stage two farming community. Terrorists killed 20 residents of this peaceful farming community last Sunday. Sixteen people were injured, 40 houses burned and others driven out in these attacks. At present, an Army and police unit from Anuradhapura have been stationed in the Mahadivullewa for the protection of civilians.

Security officials investigating the recent attack have established that approximately 2,000 cartridges had been used by the terrorists in the attack. The terrorists had taken 20 villagers to the vicinity of the Mahadivullewa tank, lifted them up and shot them. Some of the residents, who fled the area on hearing the gun shots are now thought to be in hiding in adjacent jungle. Terrorists had burned their houses as they apparently could not find them.

Security was strengthened around isolated Sinhalese villages on the east coast today after Tamil terrorists killed 32 people during the weekend.

Defense Secretary General Sepala Attygalle ordered a review of security arrangements in the region. He said security forces were on alert across the country because there were signs that the terrorists planned more raids to disrupt peace talks.

Tamil Groups Reject Government Offer for Peace Talks

BK281535 Hong Kong AFP in English 1522 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] New Delhi, May 28 (AFP) — Three Tamil militant groups Wednesday rejected the Sri Lankan Government's offer of informal discussions to settle the island nation's ethnic separatist conflict, the PRESS TRUST of INDIA (PTI) reported.

The island's major Tamil moderate group, the Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), a political party, also turned down the offer, describing it as a "calculated move" to deprive India of its mediatory role in the efforts to end the conflict, PTI said.

Sri Lanka's National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said in Colombo Tuesday that his government was willing to immediately begin informal discussions with Tamil militant leaders structured on the lines of the Geneva proximity talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan. The minister said Colombo would accept an independent mediator such as the British Commonwealth in resuming a dialogue with the Tamil groups.

The groups that turned down the offer were the People's Liberation Organisation of Tamil Eelam (PLOT), the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) and the Tamil Eelam Liberation Front (TELF), PTI said. They said in Madras that there was no question of resuming talks with the government as long as it persisted in settling the conflict through military means, the news agency said.

The conflict, in which some of Sri Lanka's 2.5 million Tamil minority are seeking an independent country and others more autonomy for the Tamil-dominated north and east, has taken a toll of 1,700 lives in the past 17 months.

The TULF Politburo met in the southern Indian city Wednesday to discuss the offer and concluded that it was designed to "dislodge" New Delhi from its "legitimate" role as mediator, PTI said.

The militant groups, in separate statements, echoed the TULF, saying they could not accept the Commonwealth as a mediator because that would mean a negation of India's role, the news agency said. PLOT was quoted as saying the Commonwealth "only danced to the American tune." The EPRLF felt Colombo's offer was meant to counter India's threat the it would withdraw its "good offices" if Sri Lanka persisted in its military drive, and the TFLF saw it as admission that the drive had failed.

Tamil militant groups have their political headquarters in Madras, capital of India's Tamil Nadu State.

Commonwealth Mediation Rejected

BK290310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] India has rejected the Sri Lankan proposal for Commonwealth mediation in the talks between Colombo and the Tamil groups to solve the island's ethnic problem. The minister of state for personnel, Mr Chidambaram, who led the Indian delegation to Colombo recently, told newsmen in Madras yesterday that the suggestion is unacceptable. He said no country other than India can play a mediatory role in the talks.

Sri Lanka had told India that it is in favor of holding proximity talks with Tamil groups in a bid to reach finality on Colombo's proposals to resolve the ethnic problem. The proximity talks will mean that delegations from the government and the Tamil groups will be present at the same venue but will conduct the dialogue through an intermediary.

Meanwhile, reports from Jaffna say that the town came under shell fire yesterday for about 3 hours. Six civilians injured in the shelling have been admitted to hospital. No official spokesman was available for comment on the incident.

Terrorists Reportedly in Disarray After Infighting

BK271131 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Terrorist groups based in Madras and those operating in the north of Sri Lanka are reported to be in a disarray following the bloody battles between the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization].

The Eelam People's National Liberation Front — the ENLF which once grouped four of the major terrorist organizations -- has collapsed after the killing of the TELO leader Sri Sabaratnam by Prabhakaran's LTTE. The other groups of the ENLF have sworn to take revenge on Prabhakaran, who is now reported to be hiding in Madras.

Intelligence sources also told LANKA PUWATH that the LTTE has resorted to new tactics of creating nonexistent groups to cover up their criminal activities. For example, a recent issue of a Tamil newspaper in India, *DINAKANTI*, quoted a hitherto unknown group calling itself the Revolutionary Communist Militants as saying that it was responsible for the Kantalai disaster.

Land Development Minister Returns from Havana Talks

BK231142 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 23 May 86

[Text] Sri Lanka and Cuba have signed an agreement initiating broad economic, cultural and social ties between the two countries. The agreement was signed in Havana by Sri Lanka's minister of land development, Gamini Dissanayake, and Cuba's economic minister, Ernesto Melendez Bachs. This was disclosed to the SLBC [Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation] by Mr Dissanayake who returned to the island last night after a 6-day visit to Cuba. The minister had held discussions with the Cuban leader, Dr Fidel Castro, and other officials.

Increased economic ties between the two countries was one of the main topics. Another area of discussion was the Mahaweli development program.

The Cuban president has said that his country would be willing to provide assistance for the cultivation of citrus fruits and for dairy farming in the Mahaweli areas. President Castro accepted an invitation to visit Sri Lanka extended by Mr Dissanayake on behalf of President Jayewardene.

Saudi Charge Conveys Fahd Message to Khamene‘i

LD281659 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] A written message from King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to President Khamene‘i was delivered by the Saudi charge d'affaires in Tehran to Mir Salim, chief adviser to the president. In this message, the Saudi king, referring to issues related to OPEC and the state of the world oil market, declared Saudi Arabia's readiness to cooperate regarding the recovery of the oil situation.

Message for Musavi

LD281123 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] The charge d'affaires of the Saudi Arabian Embassy met and conferred with the prime minister's political deputy, Mo‘ayeri, this morning. The Saudi charge d'affaires conveyed a written message from King Fahd to Prime Minister Musavi during the meeting.

Reportage on Visit of SWAPO Leader Nujoma

Welcomed by Velayati

LD272116 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 27, IRNA — Leader of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma arrived here Tuesday afternoon at the invitation of Iran's Foreign Ministry and was welcomed by Foreign Minister ‘Ali Akbar Velayati at the airport here.

The SWAPO leader in a brief interview with reporters upon his arrival at the airport described the Pretoria Government as a 'fascist regime'. Nujoma reiterated that SWAPO would continue its struggle until Namibia achieve its independence and the invading army of the South African apartheid regime is driven out of his country. The veteran African freedom fighter arrived here in the next leg of a trip to New Delhi where he held talks with top government leaders including Prime Minister Rjaiv Ghandi.

Foreign Minister Velayati in his remarks stressed on the need for solidarity among the Third World countries in the fight with arrogant powers. He said that Nujoma's visit to Tehran which coincided with a meeting of the U.N. on the issue of Namibia was an indication of the importance SWAPO attaches to the Islamic revolution of Iran.

The Islamic Republic of Iran severed its trade and diplomatic relations with the racist South African regime after the victory of the 1979 Islamic revolution and has since pursued an active policy in support of the anti-apartheid regimes in Africa. Velayati also said that Iran's strong condemnation of the recent military attack by the South African apartheid regime on SWAPO and African front line countries was a sign of the importance the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches to their struggle.

The visit of the SWAPO leader to Tehran follows another visit by Eron Shehiop, another senior SWAPO member to Iran in April.

Sam Nujoma, son of a farmer in northern Namibia, started his political activities at a young age. In 1959 he was arrested and later exiled for his opposition to Pretoria's rule in his country. He set up SWAPO headquarters in Tanzania and chose armed struggle as the only means of achieving liberation. Most countries in the world as well as the United Nations have recognized the South-West African People's Organization as the only legal representative of Namibia.

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD282315 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] South-West Africa People's Organization [SWAPO] leader Sam Nujoma met with Foreign Minister Velayati today in Tehran. During the meeting, Sam Nujoma conveyed his warm and revolutionary greetings to His Excellency Imam Khomeyni and the revolutionary people of Iran. Praising the Islamic Revolution of Iran, he said: The victory of the Islamic Revolution of Iran led to the defeat of U.S. imperialism in the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, and the weakening of all puppets of imperialism and reaction. We feel that your victory is our victory.

Describing the latest developments in Namibia and the inhuman acts committed by the racist regime of South Africa in Namibia, he strongly condemned the attack on Libya by U.S. imperialism under the guise of fighting terrorism. He called the regime occupying Jerusalem and the racist regime of Pretoria agents of U.S. imperialism.

While asking for more help from the Iranian authorities in the fight against the Pretoria regime and U.S. agents in South Africa, Sam Nujoma expressed his deep gratitude for Iran's decision to allow SWAPO to open an embassy. It was agreed that a SWAPO ambassador to Iran would be introduced soon. He called the Islamic Republic of Iran a true friend to the people of Namibia and the protector of the deprived people of Africa. Regarding the imposed war, he said: You are defending your country. In fact, this war is in defense of your revolution and your territorial integrity.

While declaring support for Namibia's independence and the struggles of the people of that country and SWAPO in all international circles and sessions, Foreign Minister Velayati said: Support for the people of Namibia and popular movements in the world are among the foreign policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran and part of the basis of our faith.

Condemning U.S. imperialism against the interests of the people of the region and the Frontline States, Velayati called for greater struggle on the part of Namibians and SWAPO against the Pretoria regime and for cooperation among the countries of the region to fight apartheid and its perpetrators. He affirmed Iran's readiness — as a revolutionary country whose policy is to support oppressed countries and liberation movements — to give decisive support to the struggles of the Namibian people and SWAPO.

Received by Khamene'i

LD282346 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Sam Nujoma, the leader of the Namibian liberation front SWAPO [South-West Africa People's Organization] who arrived in Tehran yesterday at the head of a delegation, met this evening with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president.

At this meeting, also attended by Foreign Minister Velayati, the leader of the Namibian liberation front began by conveying the warm, revolutionary greetings of his Central Committee and the Namibian people. He described the positive results of the president's visit to southern Africa and said: Your visit to southern Africa encouraged all strugglers and those who are still under the yoke of racist regimes. In our movement we believe that the gains of the Iranian Islamic Revolution have been a great help to us because we believe that the defeat of the U.S. puppet in Iran has weakened the United States, the ringleader of fascist regimes, and also the racist South African and Israeli regimes. For this reason, the SWAPO movement regards the Iranian Islamic Revolution as its own revolution.

He went on: Iran's unreserved help and support to the SWAPO movement has been a great source of encouragement for continuing the struggle for the liberation of the people in that part of Africa. The SWAPO leader noted that despite pressures from the racist South African regime and after 20 years of struggle, the movement continues to believe in the liberation of its people. He said: The South African regime is doing in southern Africa what the Zionist Israeli regime is doing in Palestine and southern Lebanon. For this reason, drawing upon the experience of your revolution, we have learned that imperialism and its backers understand no other language except force. For this reason, we are determined to continue our armed struggle and mobilize our people until we have achieved final victory. We have many plans for increasing our political presence at the international level, and will jointly [as heard] condemn U.S. imperialism at all world forums.

In conclusion, the leader of SWAPO expressed his own and the Namibian people's heartfelt gratitude for the Islamic Republic of Iran's practical steps in the early days of the victory of the revolution to cut off oil exports to the South African regime and to end diplomatic relations with the South African and Zionist regimes.

Our country's president, welcoming the visit to Iran by the SWAPO leader and the delegation accompanying him, said: This is your home. The meeting we had with you in Angola was extremely good. We deeply respect your struggles. We hope these struggles will soon bear fruit and we will be able to return your visit. Our country's president added: We believe that only with resistance and struggle can the oppression of the Namibian and South African people be confronted.

Addressing the SWAPO leader, Khamene'i said: You have been engaged in a struggle for a long time. and this struggle undoubtedly will continue to remain a thorn in the side of global arrogance and the South African regime. Khamene'i stressed that South Africa could not continue without the all-round help from the United States and its associates. We believe that the struggle against the South African regime is inseparable from the struggle against the United States and global arrogance.

Khamene'i went on: There is no doubt that the organizations that seriously want to condemn the South African regime should also firmly take a position against the policies of U.S. imperialism. It can never be acceptable to see those who are simultaneously fighting against the South African regime and are hand-in-glove with the United States. This is an oppressive compromise.

In conclusion, the president expressed profound concern for the oppressed Namibian people and said: We can feel the pains of your people, and fully understand the oppression being exercised against your people by the South African regime, by oppressive and plundering companies, and by global arrogance. We believe that the only remedy to this grave pain lies in a violent and uncomprising struggle.

Further Commentary on Thatcher's Visit to Israel

Visit Linked to Elections

GF252028 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1820 GMT 25 May 86

[From the "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Perhaps it is not a coincidence that Thatcher's official visit to occupied Palestine takes place 1 month after the 38th anniversary of the establishment of the Zionist entity. Since then, Britain, which established this entity, has not sent any of its prime ministers to the Zionist entity. Perhaps Britain wanted this entity to become a de facto situation to clear itself of the crime of creating an alien entity and of rendering people homeless by expelling them from their homeland.

Coincidence or planning may be behind Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine 38 years after the establishment of the Zionist entity and the issuance of a law in Britain revealing secret official documents 30 or 35 years later. Who knows? It may be that British politicians now think that the granting of Palestine to the Zionist movement has become an old document.

At any rate Thatcher, who is currently visiting occupied Palestine for the first time as British prime minister, visited the occupied territories in 1975 when she was the leader of the opposition against the then Labor government. In view of these visits, it may be logical to link them together, particularly after Thatcher (?denied) that the visit will include discussions of the special British plan or a European plan to settle the so-called Middle East crisis. Instead, Thatcher reasoned that the visit willconfirm Britain's independent policy. Is Thatcher therefore unable to confirm the independence of Britain's policy except in occupied Palestine? Taking Thatcher's statements on the independent British policy for granted, linking the 1975 visit to the current visit supports one of the possibilities for the goals of this visit.

The current visit is like other visits by Western politicians when there are parliamentary elections. They want to woo the Zionist lobby which is influential in these elections. The visit to the

Zionist entity and the display of good feelings toward Zionists to the extent of wearing the clothes of their monks and even participating in some of their religious activities show that Thatcher will need the Zionist lobby in the next elections more than in previous elections, particularly after recent elections showed a poor showing by Conservatives in some constituencies and remarkable progress by the Labor Party. Therefore, it is not ruled out that Thatcher's visit will be exploited in the next British elections for herself and for the Conservative Party, which is now suffering from a noticeable deterioration in its popularity.

Tehran Turkish Commentary

GF281108 Tehran International Service in Turkish 1830 GMT 27 May 86

[Unattributed commentary: "Thatcher's Visit to Occupied Palestine"]

[Excerpt] During her 3-day official visit to Israel, Prime Minister Thatcher was to discuss a new peace program to include the United States. The visit was realized in cooperation with Washington in order to complete preliminary preparations for the visit Secretary of State George Shultz will be making to the region during the current month. All this displays the extent of U.S.-British cooperation on matters concerning the region.

The British support for the U.S. air raid against Libya has forced a number of subservient Arab regimes to become weak puppets of the United States. Due to the superficial dignity the Arab regimes assumed as a result of political contacts over the past few years, the imperialists refrained from establishing open relations with the Zionist regime which occupies Palestine. [sentence as heard]

British imperialism, which has contributed to the fall in oil prices and has caused a great material losses for the oil-producing countries, has succeeded in selling arms to Saudi Arabia worth about $4 billion — regardless of the damage Britain has caused.

The weakness and treachery of the puppet Arab regimes, which have gradually increased after the Camp David accords, have taken a new form as a result of Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to occupied Palestine. However, the first stage of Prime Minister Thatcher's new peace plan will only serve to reveal the secret talks between the puppet Arab regimes and the Zionists which have been continuing to date.

The latest initiatives made by the United States and Great Britain have created the understanding that these two countries intend to replace the grudge and hatred felt against Zionism with the hatred felt against what they term terrorism and divert the attention of some Muslims and regimes ruling in Muslim countries from their objectives. In fact, they are trying to describe Syria, Libya, and Iran as the primary enemy, instead of the occupationist Zionist regime.

Undoubtedly, the Muslim people in the region will demonstrate a high degree of awareness and render the plot hatched by the imperialists ineffective.

New Ambassador to USSR Appointed

LD291003 Tehran IRNA in English 0145 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — The Islamic Republic of Iran has appointed Naser Heyrani-Nowbari, as the new ambassador to the Soviet Union, it was announced Thursday. The appointment was made upon the proposal of Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and approval of President 'Ali Khamene'i. Prior to his appointment to the post, Heyrani-Nowbari served as the director of the Second Political Department of the Foreign Ministry.

Foreign Minister Receives Outgoing Cuban Envoy

LD241109 Tehran IRNA in English 1018 GMT 24 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 24, IRNA — The Cuban ambassador to Tehran, Luis Marisy Figueredo, at the end of his service in Tehran met and talked with Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Saturday. Velayati praised services of the Cuban ambassador in promoting bilateral relations. He also thanked his Cuban counterpart in inviting him to visit Cuba and added that such meetings would be useful in exchanging views before the forthcoming non-aligned summit.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

'Heavy' Iraqi Losses in Hajj 'Umran

LD281734 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in a communique issued today, reports that the relatively severe battle -- which began at 0200 yesterday between our forces and those of the aggressor enemy in the Hajj 'Umran operational sector between Height 2,519 and that of Kudu in the Karareh region -- concluded at 0445 yesterday following a close, man-to-man battle when the forces of the Zionist Iraqi regime withdrew and dispersed having sustained very heavy losses and casualties.

In the exchange of fire in the northwestern regions of the country, seven bases, five heavy vehicles and one armored personnel carrier of the enemy were destroyed and a large number of enemy troops were killed and wounded. On the western battlefronts the exchange of fire continued sporadically, the intensity of fire being greatest in the Sumar and Mehran operational sectors. The combatants of Islam, while destroying 6 heavy-weapons' emplacements and observation posts, and setting fire to 3 enemy vehicles, killed or wouded at least 30 Iraqi troops. The Gendarmerie fighters, opening fire on the positions and vehicle columns of the intruder enemy in the southern regions of the country, destroyed 3 ammunition dumps and 11 weapons' emplacements of the enemy, and killed or wounded more than 20 troops of the Zionist Iraqi regime forces.

In the past 24 hours, the city of Abadan continued to be subjected to enemy artillery fire, in the course of which several shops and houses were damaged.

Opposition Paper Warns Saddam, Khomeyni

GF271506 London KEYHAN in Persian 22 May 86 p 2

[Weekly commentary by Board of Editors: "Warning to the War Criminals"]

[Text] Masses of innocents continue to pay for the destructive war continuing between two sinners. Saddam Husayn and Ayatollah Khomeyni are both responsible for this war — one for starting it, the other for continuing it. Saddam Husayn by militarily invading our homeland bit off more than he could chew. Although the Iranian Army suffered a great blow with the advent of the revolution, it has been able to teach a lesson to the Iraqi ruler which he richly deserves. We do not think the Iraqis will easily forget the blow they have received from Iranian nationalism — neither Saddam nor his successor, whoever he may be.

The war was an Iranian war until they took back Khorramshahr. After that it was not an Iranian war. It may be called by any name the propagandists of the Islamic regime give it. In any case, even though the propagandists of the Islamic regime never tell the truth, this time they tell the truth when they say that the enemy is mean. By "mean" we are not saying that the enemy has been armed to the teeth by the superpowers and the medium-powers, but that it does not feel itself bound by any international laws.

The bombardment of a passenger train at Haft-Tappeh, Khuzestan, is a recent example of its meanness, although it is not the only example. The Iraqi Army is a self-indulgent and unmotivated army. No one envies it. It is neither a defensive nor offensive army. Its invading capability was fully visible in Khuzestan and Kordestan, just as its defensive capabilities were known in the Al-Faw operation.

Ayatollah Khomeyni has incited the wrath of his vindictive enemy, Saddam. One can understand this, but what cannot be understood by the Iranian nation is why the innocent people of Iran should pay for this wrath. It is neither in the interest of the Iranian nation nor the Iraqi nation for enmity between two "leaders" to turn into enmity between two nations. Saddam Husayn is treading this very dangerous path by attacking nonmilitary targets.

Although the propagandists and the loudspeakers of the Islamic regime often boast that they will teach a lesson to the Iraqi ruler, so far there have been no signs of regret on his part. However, Iran is not a land which will be always as weak as it is today, unable to carry out its threats. There have never been long periods of time between its ups and downs; we know this from history. The day Iran comes into its own, it will perhaps be too late for the Iraqi rulers to regret their actions. At that time regrets will serve no purpose. The Iranian nation is carrying on this war with reluctance against the Iraqi regime, which claims to be an Islamic regime. We do not appreciate that the Iraqi war machine is let loose against our innocent nation.

If Iraq thinks that through such destructive operations it will make the Iranian nation rise against its rulers, it is again thinking incorrectly. The Iranian nation's patience against this regime is already stretched to its limit and is about to break. The Iranian nation does not need any foreign instigation to make it rise against this cruel regime which is forced on it today. It would be much better for Iraq to not interfere in the dispute which should be settled between the Iranian nation and the current Iranian regime by themselves.

We do not say these words simply for the sake of our national pride. These words are based on all-round calculations and long-range political decisions. When we tell the ayatollah that maintaining or toppling the Iraqi regime is a matter related only to the Iraqi nation, we also mean that this message is for the Iraqi rulers.

We hereby give serious warning to the Iraqi rulers that their attacks on the residential areas and cities and the slaughter of innocent and defenseless Iranian people, as on the passenger train at Haft-Tappeh, will serve no purpose and will be registered as war crimes. They should refrain from such actions because, when Iran seeks peace between the two neigboring and co-religionist nations of Iran and Iraq, its task may become more difficult than it is now.

KEYHAN Discusses Economic Picture, Budget Deficit

GF261320 London KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] *KEYHAN* News Service — More than half of the country's factories are presently shut-down and the workers of these factories have lost their jobs. It is feared that the remaining factories will also be closed down and that 3 million more workers will be added to the ranks of the unemployed in the country. 'Ali Naqi Khamushi, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, has predicted the closure of the rest of the factories.

Khamushi, who was speaking during the 3-day meeting of the heads of the Chambers of Commerce of the country, stated that the government is facing a 25 percent deficit in the budget and that if urgent measures are not taken to save the country from this economic crisis, the remaining factories in the country would also be shut down and more than 3 million workers rendered jobless. Khamushi did not give any statistics about the factories already closed down or the number of workers already unemployed; he only referred to the closing down of the remaining factories.

The 3-day meeting of the heads of the Chambers of Commerce took place at Kerman last week. Each participant gave an account of the financial difficulties and economic crisis he faced in the area under his jurisdiction. They also complained of a lack of foreign exchange. The meeting was designed to find ways and means to raise state income and earn foreign exchange through exports, but nothing of any consequence transpired. They talked about basing the economy of the country on revenues excluding oil, but finally they decided that merchants should be allowed a free hand in the import and export business in the country. However, none of the participants was able to find a way to meet the $10 billion deficit in the budget caused by the fall in oil prices and production cuts.

From the beginning the government had predicted an oil income of $18 billion. Now this figure has been reduced to less than half.

Moreover, it has also been said that income from direct and indirect taxes was 21 percent less last year than what had been anticipated.

Voice of Liberation Reports on 'Differences' in IRGC

GF190722 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 0330 GMT 19 May 86

[Text] As you may know, among the important issues being discussed in Montazeri's office in Qom are the differences between the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] with the personnel at the IRGC Ministry. These differences surfaced some time ago and worsen day by day. Montazeri is personally trying very hard to prevent further problems and clashes within the IRGC. He has also asked other clerics to [words indistinct].

Our correspondent says: In addition to the problems between the IRGC and the people at the IRGC Ministry, the commanders of the [regular] Armed Forces also have differences with the IRGC. There have even been clashes between the two. One clear example of this is the commission investigating the murders of a brigadier general and a colonel of the Armed Forces at the hands of members of the IRGC. According to our correspondent's report, the special commission looking into the recent premeditated murders of Brigadier General Mohammad Bagheri and Colonel Reza Sabet during fighting in Hoveyzeh and Al-Faw began its work yesterday at the military court. Several persons responsible for units in the IRGC are under suspicion for having fired several machinegun rounds at these two Armed Forces personnel, and several members of the mobilization unit and some army NCO's are appearing at the military court as witnesses. However, we have received no reports on the preliminary results of this court case.

Clandestine Radio: Larijani To Purchase Libyan Arms

GF261817 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 26 May 86

[Text] Larijani, the deputy minister of the Islamic Republic's regime, has joined a delegation already in Libya. Our correspondent reports that Larijani's hasty departure for Libya — in view of his previous assignments which have always pertained to the purchase of arms — has given rise to fresh rumors of a shortage of arms on the battlefronts.

Larijani, who had returned to Tehran from Spain recently after talks at the Institute of National Ordnance Industries in Spain to purchase arms, once again joined Rahmani, deputy chief of the Revolution Guards, and his delegation in the Libyan capital. He will hold talks with the Libyan officials and international arms smugglers concerning Iran's military needs. At the same time that Larijani is engaged in smuggled arms transactions for the Islamic Republic, a Swiss court has sentenced a Swiss gangster and two Iranians in absentia, on charges of selling smuggled arms to the Islamic Republic. The Swiss gangster received a 6-year prison term; Mohammad Shahryan, a 4-year prison term; and Baqer Kushtkar, a 30-month prison sentence.

KEYHAN: Khalkhali Demands Execution of Merchants

GF261221 London KEYHAN in Persian 15 May 86 p 1

[Text] Tehran — Hojjat ol-Eslam Sadeq Khalkhali, the first Shar' magistrate and the current Majlis deputy representing Qom, who is said to be Ayatollah Khomeyni's spokesman in the Majlis, has strongly criticized the revolution courts and the administrative judicial courts. He said that these courts make faces at the revolution. Sadeq Khalkhali stated that the revolution and the administrative judicial courts deal with cases in such a way that if the Shah was alive, they would have acquitted him.

About a fortnight ago one of the Majlis deputies proposed that Khalkhali entrusted with the job of combatting profiteering in the country so that he may execute profiteers in the same way he has counterrevolutionaries and smugglers. During the Sunday session of the Majlis, Khalkhali attacked the merchants severely. He said: These merchants cooperate with the counterrevolutionaries in practice and sell goods given to them by the government at 30 times the price they pay for it. They should be hanged for this. Khalkhali added: They tell us repeatedly: Leave the merchants alone, leave them alone. These people who are known as merchants, most of whom are counterrevolutionaries, must be hanged.

Sadeq Khalkhali hoped that there would be unity between the forces inside the revolution and the regime — unity which would facilitate a final blow upon Saddam. He further said: We must shed our internal differences.

He then strongly attacked and criticized the British Government. He said: We need say nothing. Britain is an old hyena, and everyone knows it. The attack on Britain was in connection with its support to Iraq and the British Government's support to the United States in combatting terrorism.

Najibullah, Karmal Supporters Clash in Kabul

LD250537 Tehran IRNA in English 0528 GMT 25 May 86

["French Clashes in Afghanistan" — IRNA Headline]

[Text] New Delhi, May 24, IRNA — Supporters of Dr. Najib, the president of Afghanistan and of Babrak Karmal clashed in Makrooriyan of Kabul last week following the arrest of Mahmud Barialay the brother of Karmal and Mrs. Anahita Ratebzad, member of the Central Communist Party of Afghanistan.

According to reports reaching here the supporters of Karmal became furious after the arrest of their leaders, and protested against the act to the present government for its unlawful act.

Meanwhile, police arrested some women students who demonstrated against the new government in Kabul last week.

According to Afghan majahidin sources here, one army jeep was attacked by the majahidin killing all its military crew in Chahar Ghalaye Vazirabad of Kabul.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 MAY 1986

Syria

Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Chief of Staff General Hikmat al-Shihabi met with President Hafiz al-Asad on their return from Moscow, briefing Al-Asad on the results of their talks with Soviet officials and giving him a reply message from Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, Damascus radio reported. Syria was "fully satisfied" with the results of the talks, in which both sides held "identical" viewpoints, the radio said. Before leaving the USSR, Khaddam told Moscow radio that the visit would have "important and excellent" results for bilateral relations, adding that viewpoints were in agreement over ways to resist U.S.-Israeli "aggressive plans" and that the Syrian-Soviet Friendship and Cooperation Treaty has "proved its efficiency at all stages."

Libya

Jallud's Moscow Visit — Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud left Moscow 30 May, TASS announced. Earlier, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio stressed that Soviet lea[illegible]chev expressed the USSR's military support for Libya du[illegible] with Jallud. However, diplomatic sources in Mos[illegible] KUNA said that the two sides will not sign a frie[illegible] cooperation agreement and that while they have agreed on an arms deal, the contract does not include advanced Soviet weapons. In a related report, Jerusalem radio spoke of a "crisis" in Soviet-Libyan relations, with the USSR refusing Libyan requests and demanding that Libya stop supporting terrorism.

European Relations — The Libyan charge d'affaires left Spain 29 May, Madrid radio reported, noting that this may be the result of a Spanish-Libyan agreement that the charge would leave in order to avoid being expelled because of his connection with the "Call of Jesus Christ" terrorist group. Meanwhile, the Italian authorities announced the expulsion of 12 Libyans working in Rome, according to Rome radio.

Lebanon

An army of southern Lebanon (ASL) spokesman cited by Voice of Hope radio warned that the ASL will make a "violent" response to the killing of five ASL soldiers in Kafr Rumman, a village located near Israel's security strip. The ASL men were "treacherously martyred" after arriving in the village at the inhabitants' request to discuss the return of families to empty houses, he said.

Tabah Talks

Egypt has rejected the U.S. compromise formula over arbitration of the Tabah dispute, Israel's *HA'ARETZ* disclosed 30 May, asserting that the Egyptians are afraid that the new formula would enable Israel to present the arbiters with evidence concerning the location of the border in 1906. In remarks reported by Cairo radio following his talks with U.S. envoy Abraham Sofaer, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid confirmed that there were "still some points of disagreement" though "some progress" had been made.

PLO

Although a PLO spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said the PLO "rejects" British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's proposal for local elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Budapest radio reported that Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf has expressed the PLO's approval of the proposal.

In another development, the Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* stated that the planned reconciliation conference of Palestinian factions will be postponed until further notice because Syrian President Al-Asad is insisting that it be held in Syria, WAM reported. Citing sources close to Palestinian factions based in Damascus, the paper said that if PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat insists on convening the conference in Algiers, only Fatah, the DFLP, and the Palestinian Communist Party will attend.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes raided a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 30 May, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA.

DRA

A bicameral parliament will be established in the DRA "within a few months," PDPA General Secretary Najibullah announced in a 28 May speech to religious leaders broadcast by Kabul radio. A council of representatives will be chosen on the basis of "free and democratic elections" and a council of nationalities will be formed based on the "equality of rights" of all nationalities. Najibullah also affirmed the DRA Government's commitment to upholding Islam, claiming that the PDPA is promoting revolution in accordance with a "decree from God for maintaining justice." In another development, the radio broadcast a Revolutionary Council Presidium decree announcing that army deserters and draft dodgers will be pardoned if they report for military service within 6 months.

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Najibullah Delivers Address at Mazar-e Sharif

LD300202 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 28 May 86

[Speech by PDPA General Secretary Najibullah at meeting with religious figures in Mazar-e Sharif on 28 May — recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots, toiling people, esteemed elders, ulema, and noble religious leaders: Peace and God's blessing be upon you. Allow me, first of all, proudly to convey to you proud, noble, and esteemed compatriots, greetings and sincere wishes from the PDPA party leadership, greetings from the Central Committee members and members of the Central Committee Politburo, and from myself.

Second, we could claim that the DRA and the PDPA, together with you, dear compatriots, have taken firm steps toward implementing their sacred Islamic, patriotic, and religious duties. They are taking further firm steps in this direction. First of all, it should be said that our country, Afghanistan, is an Islamic country, and in accordance with the basic principles of the DRA, all possibilities and opportunities should be applied to protect, observe, respect, and guarantee the sacred religion of Islam and all Islamic matters and affairs, and to observe religious tenets, performances, and sanctities. [applause]

We do not put this before you as a theory or saying. Broad and practical measures have been taken toward the performance of religious affairs and religious tenets during the 6 years after the new phase. I would like to cite a few examples in this regard: The Ministry of Islamic Affairs was formed in our country. Some 12 religious educational establishments were formed in our country during these years; 127 new mosques have been built; 2,020 mosques have been repaired. Approximately 1.25 billion afghanis have been spent on assistance to the ulema, preachers, mullahs, and Koran readers who are engaged in serving our sacred Islamic and religious matters. Approximately 1.25 billion afghanis is equal to five times the amount spent in the last 50 years by the (?previous) leaders from Nader Khan to Zaher and from Zaher to Muhammad Da'ud. In order to assist the pilgrims to Mecca, we subsidize 50 percent of their expenditure every year. In Balkh Province, only some 60 million afghanis were spent in assisting the mullahs and repairing the mosques. We recently issued instructions that all the country's administrative organs, all establishments, and all organs of the Armed Forces should build mosques in their workplaces with funds from their own budgets, and take the necessary measures toward the [words indistinct] of religious affairs. We will continue these measures further and further.

Dear compatriots, Muslim and noble compatriots [words indistinct] who state as if Islam is in danger in Afghanistan, we bring before them the sacred words of God and say that Almighty God protects the sacred religion of Islam. When the Almighty Himself protects the sacred religion of Islam, then no power, no individual and no force can be found to (?harm) the sacred religion of Islam. [applause]

Those who spread this propaganda and rumor as if Islam in danger in Afghanistan, I would like to tell you that they have lost their belief in the sacred Ayat [saying from God; they have taken positions in the trenches of infidels. They have arrived in such a stormy destiny that they have found a sharer, God forbid, in the unity of the sacred existence of Almighty God. If, God forbid, Almighty God cannot preserve Islam, then can Gulbuddin or Rabbani, the Government of Pakistan, or the United States, China, or Israel protect Islam? Of course not! And if Almighty God preserves Islam, then which state will be able to (?harm) it?

As the followers of the sacred religion of Islam, as believers in God the Almighty, as faithful to the Prophet Muhammad -- peace be upon him and his family [words indistinct] -- we, relying and pursuing the orders of the Koran, are confident that the Almighty Himself preserves the sacred religion of Islam and can never be faced with danger. [applause]

Then, why all this bloodshed, all this fratricide, and all this homicide? What for? The answer is that here the power of the oppressors, the power of the arrogant ones, and the power of despots has been eliminated. It is because (?those) who collected riches and money and engaged in bribes and luxurious living, have been eliminated. In order to revive them, they shed blood and destroy mosques. We have so far constructed 127 mosques, but the counterrevolutionaries have destroyed some 114 mosques. This jihad is not for Islam. They have eliminated more than 1,000 of our noble and patriotic religious leaders. This is not a jihad for Islam, but it is to preserve their interests.

It should be said with regret that at the beginning of the revolution a number of officials around Hafizullah Amin embarked upon [words indistinct], cruelty, brutality, and savagery. A father returned home one day and his son was not there; a son, another day would come home to find out that his father was not there. One day a father would return home to find out that his daughter was not there; he would return home another day and find his brother was missing, and another one would find that his family and honor have been insulted! That is why the [words indistinct] people of this land had to flee from these injustices either to the mountains or to go to another country in order to protect his honor, name, dignity.

However, with full and complete good fortune [words indistinct] you have gone through various experiences after the new phase of the revolution. We are completely confident today that your confidence in the DRA's measures and its humane and Islamic approach has been obtained, once again, I would like to say before you that quarrels and squabbles, bloodshed, and the language of arms no longer will yield any results. The only way that can bring us success, peace and security in the country, and fraternity and brotherhood is the path that the PDPA has stated in its 10 Theses and the resolutions of its plenums — that is national compromise and national reconciliation.

Therefore, respected compatriots and respected elders, you are respectfully asked, in order to succeed in this aim of national reconciliation and the elimination of contradictions between the Afghans, between the compatriots, between the Muslims — when Afghan kills Afghan, Islam kills Islam, Muslim kills Muslim — that you form jirgas, form groups, write letters, establish contacts.

Invite those of our compatriots who are angry and alienated and are in the mountains or outside the country in camps [and tell them] that the DRA is prepared, together with you, to take part freely in a democratic manner in the formation of a truly national and democratic state based on all strata and classes -- workers, peasants, artisans, medium-size land owners, national capitalists, commercial capitalists, industrial capitalists -- in the structure of our state in the new political power. [applause]

If greater possibilities for the active participation of our compatriots in all areas of economic, social, and political transformations exist, then what is the war for? What is the bloodshed for? I can give you a good answer that, on the basis of the principles of the equality of rights and in the process of [words indistinct] for maintaining truly social justice and true equality between the nationalities, the DRA has also decided to take firm and strong steps. I bring a good message that a new state order will come into existence within a few months which will be based on two councils: the elected Council of Representatives of the People on the basis of free and democratic elections; and the formation of the Council of Nationalities based on the equality of rights of all nationalities in our country, our ancient and free country, revolutionary Afghanistan. [applause]

For the first time, in the Council of Nationalities, all the nationalities including Pashtun, Uzbek, Turkmen, Tajik, Hazara, Baluchi, Nurestani, and other minorities will exist in an equal national structure. This council will be structured with all brothers as equals.

It was the policy of the sultans, the arrogant ones and the exploiters of yesterday, in order to preserve their own glory, to pit nationalities and tribes against each other and thus to rule.

Today the day has arrived that all nationalities, tribes, and clans become united for the protection of their country, for the protection of the freedom, independence, progress, and prosperity of their country. They all come together in one front line to have a joint share in the political rule and all society's transformations like equal brothers. [applause]

The structure of these two cameras will be (?called) the parliament [sura] of the DRA. Every one of our individual compatriots, every one in authority, belonging to every tribe and nationality of our country, without prejudice of color of skin language, or other difference, could be a candidate in an area, or find his or her way to these chambers. We will form the DRA from their composition. In this way, a DRA, on the foundation of free elections with the direct vote of the people and the presence of the representatives of the various fraternal and equal nationalities, will be formed as a democratic state, a state based on the social bases of the masses of the people.

Then, if such possibilities exist and we follow this direction, invite all the brothers and establish contact with them to lay down their weapons. Come, the opportunities for joint participation for all exist. Come and win the elections; come and find your way to these chambers, and then you will have an active part in the composition of the DRA state parliament in the future.

Another principle, another thing that I would like to say to you, is to convey to you as a good message: For the first time after the revolution, the constitution of our state, the DRA Constitution, which is presently being drafted under the supervision of a commission, will be approved by this state parliament and will be ratified by the council comprised of representatives of all the nationalities, tribes, clans, strata, and various classes of the society, including the religious leaders, ulema, and [words indistinct] of all nationalities and tribes. In this way, in the light of our constitution, all laws including (?executive) and judicial, will be renewed and completed to reflect the interests and obligations of the people.

Finally, our society will be a democratic society, a free society, and a society with law. The law will guarantee the rights of every individual, the right of every human being, the right of the every group, the right of every nationality, and the right of every [words indistinct] on equal bases and the preservation of human dignity. [applause]

Let us then render whatever we can to the service of the creator of God for the realization of these aspirations, these noble aspirations, the aspirations of service to the people. Do not leave us alone in carrying out these tasks. We invite you, together with your popular state — and the state is dutybound together with your compatriots — to help us on our way.

Let a new Afghanistan, a prosperous Afghanistan, an advanced Afghanistan, an independent Afghanistan, a free Afghanistan, a proud Afghanistan, be created. Let such an Afghanistan come to exist here, where the cries of an old woman will not be heard; let an Afghanistan come to exist a smile will be seen on the faces of our children instead of tears. Let the bread cloth of a peasant not be without bread, and all the joys of life be found in his home, and let him have a prosperous life along with his children. Let an Afghanistan come to exist where the blister wounds of workers are not seen, and instead our workers have prosperous and dignified life. Let an entire human and social justice become established in Afghanistan; let our country, Afghanistan become such an Islamic country that all muslem countries of the world rally about this pivot, around the pivot of the Islam of Afghanistan. [applause]

Let us then, for the realization of these human aspirations, these duties, these sacred tasks, pray in this tomb of Hazrat-e Mubarak, Hazrat-e 'Ali that my God direct us on the right path, direct us on the path that he prefers.

Najibullah Receives Cuban, Iraqi Envoys

LD300543 Kabul Bakhtar in English 0450 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Kabul, May 29, BAKHTAR — Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan today received in his office in the headquarters of the CC, PDPA, Ragino Farinas Cantero, the ambassador of Cuba for a courtesy call.

Comrade Najibullah also received in his office Burhan Khalil Ghazal Ambassador of Iraq for a courtesy call.

Decree Pardoning Draft Dodgers, Deserters Issued

LD292009 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 May 86

[Decree of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium, Kabul city, 29 May 1986, on pardoning those people who have evaded military service]

[Text] The DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium in consideration of the fact that a large number of military personnel and those who were under conscription have evaded military service under the influence of the enemy's propaganda and who are recently coming to military units and commissariats voluntarily in order to perform their military service in the ranks of the DRA Armed Forces, and on the basis of following a humanitarian policy based on Paragraph 6, Article 43 of the DRA Basic Principles approves the following:

1. Those personnel in the Armed Forces who have left their units and companies and deserted from the service and those who were under conscription to military service and avoided military service will be pardoned if they come forward voluntarily to their units and companies or to the organs of the state power and administration within 6 months of the enforcement of this decree in order to perform their military service.
2. Legal criminal proceedings against those people mentioned in Item 1 and also against those arrested before the enforcement of this decree should be discontinued and their dossiers closed if the courts have not issued a final judgment after their voluntary return or their arrest.
3. The people included in Items 1 and 2 of this decree will carry out the fixed term of service or the remaining term of service in accordance with the law. The service period of those people drafted into combat units of the Army, Sarandoy, and the Ministry of State Security to serve their term or continue it will serve 2 years, the same for volunteers.
4. Those who have evaded military service as well as committed other crimes will be punished according to the current laws of the country.
5. The implementation of this decree is the duty of these organs:

First, the investigation organs and the Prosecutors' Office who are following up the relevant dossiers of people mentioned in Item 1 of the decree;

Second, the investigation organs, the Prosecutors' Office, and the judiciary who possess the uncompleted dossiers.

6. Supervision of the implementation of this decree is the duty of the DRA Attorney General's Office, the Prosecutors' Office of the Armed Forces, and the Special Revolutionary Prosecutor's Office of the DRA according to their relevance.
7. This decree comes into force from the date of publishing in *HEWAD* daily, the publishing organ of the DRA Revolutionary Council and Council of Ministers, and will also be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Babrak Karmal, President of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium

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Revolutionary Council Session Detailed

LD292119 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 May 86

[Excerpt] A session of the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium was held today, chaired by Comrade Babrak Karmal, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council.

The presidium of the Revolutionary Council, in consideration of the fact that the DRA Armed Forces have played a significant role in defense of the gains of the 1 April Revolution, the struggle against the counterrevolution, safeguarding the territorial integrity and independence of the country, and in order to further enhance the combat and morale of the Armed Forces and in accordance with the guidances of the joint resolutions of the PDPA Central Committee, the DRA Revolutionary Council and DRA Council of Ministers, dated 4 December 1985 and 24 April 1986, approves:

1. 19 August, which corresponds to the anniversary of the restoration of the country's independence, will also be observed as the Army Day of the DRA.
2. 1 October, which corresponds to the formation and renaming anniversary of the Sarandoy will be observed as the Sarandoy Day.

The session of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council also ratified the documents of the 19th Congress of Universal Postal Union dated 18-27 June 1984 comprising the charter of the Universal Postal Union, its final protocol and the charter of [words indistinct] parcels agreement, final protocol and [words indistinct] which were signed by the DRA representative.

The Presidium of the Revolutionary Council, in order to solve a number of difficulties in the auction or sale of goods and vehicles used in smuggling, has approved an amendment to Article 7 of the Law of Prevention of Smuggling Law which will be published in the official gazette later.

Similarly, in order to encourage technical experts, staff and employees of the Forensic Medicine Institution, an amendment to Article 5 of the Forensic Medicine Institution was also approved.

In accordance with this amendment, staff and employees of forensic medicine will be entitled to 50 percent salary of the actual rank as a supplement to their salary as is the case with the professional personnel of forensic medicine.

The session also discussed a number of other topics and adopted decisions regarding them.

Awami League Leader Defends Election Participation

BK281658 Dhaka THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 25 May 86 pp 1, 8

[Text] Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina said on Saturday that there was no scope of any debate or controversy over joining the parliament as President Ershad has not yet summoned it. She ignored the demand for boycotting the parliament by party stalwarts including Dr. Kamal Hossain. Dr. Hossain played a key role in bringing Awami League in the elections. He, however, lost the elections in both the constituencies he contested from. Since then he has been leading a group of Awami League nominees who lost the elections.

The prominent Awami League leaders who lost the polls are party Acting General Secretary Begum Sajeda Chowdhury, party presidium members Mr. Abdus Samad Azad, Mr. M.A. Mannan, joint-secretary Mr. Amir Hossain Amu and Sheikh Abdul Aziz.

This meeting was convened in view of pressure from within the party by those who lost the elections and alleged massive ballot 'dacoity' and widespread violence.

The Awami League chief was delivering inaugural address at the two-day extended meeting of the working committee at Dhaka District Sports Association auditorium on the day. The meeting scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. started almost one-and-a-half hours behind the schedule. She said, "Our movement will continue till we can remove Martial Law from the country. People who have been under Martial Law for 11 years need emancipation. Whatever success we have achieved, has to be utilised in future for the restoration of people's rights".

Turning to the participants of the meeting she said that no controversial issues should be raised at the meeting. The discussion should centre round the ways and means to achieve 'our desired goal,' she said. Sheikh Hasina said that issues which can create confusions among people should not be dragged [in] and Awami League leaders and workers have to remain prepared for any sacrifices.

Referring to what she described massive 'ballot dacoity' in favour of Jatiya Party candidates she said that even herself was announced defeated in one constituency through 'media coup.' Giving consolation to those defeated in the May 7 parliamentary polls she said that her party has got people's mandate despite terrorism.

The Awami League chief said the polls has proved that Awami League alone can give democracy and restore people's rights in the country. Defending her party's decision of joining the polls she said that it has removed the confusions created by the government of President Ershad that Awami League has no base among people. The papers which have depicted the real picture of the election are not allowed to enter the country, she claimed.

Sheikh Hasina said that the government was now bargaining with the independent candidates who have won the election but if they succumb to such tactics that would mean betrayal with the people. She called upon the elected independent candidates and other oppositions to forge unity against the government to remove martial law. She claimed that had there been fair polls her party could bag 230-240 seats.

Sheikh Hasina said that the day is not far when the country will be free from martial law and rights of the people restored. Who has won and who is defeated is not a big issue today. We have to move forward forgetting our individual differences to reach the fruits of independence to the people and to build 'Sonar Bangla' [Golden Bengal] she told the meeting.

Advising the Press she said that reports which could create confusions among the people should not be published in the national interest.

Finally she sought blessings of her party leaders who have brought her to the country. She also demanded withdrawal of ban on publication of three papers.

Mr. Mohammad Nasim conducted the meeting which continued till 'Maghreb' [evening prayer] and was participated by about five dozens of leaders from Khulna and Chittagong Divisions.

Earlier Begum Sajeda Chowdhury acting general secretary of the party addressing the meeting said 'we have to evaluate how far we have been able to materialise the five-point demand.' President Ershad told earlier that Martial Law would be lifted after inaugural Sangsad session. He has now shifted from his commitment and told that Martial Law would continue till Presidential election is held she alleged.

There was heated debate on joining the parliament and candidates defeated in the last election were mostly opposed to joining the parliament, according to a party source.

Prominent among those who addressed the meeting were Sheikh A. Aziz, Mr Asaduzzaman, Mr Mosnarraf Hossain, Mr Jahirul Islam and Mr Elias.

Final Parliamentary Election Results Announced

BK291726 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Results of the Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] elections from all the 300 constituencies are now available. In Norsundi 5 constituency, the polling was held today in 20 centers.

The Election Commission received the results of 120 out of the total 122 centers. The committee declared Asadul Haq Khusru of Awami League elected. He polled 94,816 votes while his nearest rival Moinuddin of Jatiya Party received 68,040 votes.

The final part position is: Jatiya Party, 153; Awami League, 76; Jamaat-i Islami, 10; Communist Party, 5; National Awami Party, 5; Muslim League, 4; Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Rob, 4; Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Shahjahan Siraj, 3; Bangladesh Krishak Sramij Awami League, 3; National Awami Party-Muzaffar, 2; Bangladesh Workers Party, 3; Independents, 32.

Gandhi Urges UK To Impose Sanctions Against RSA

BK290935 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has expressed the hope that Britain will agree to mandatory economic sanctions against South Africa if the Commonwealth decides to impose them.

In an interview with Independent Television of Britain he said 44 Commonwealth member countries, including Britain, had approved the resolution of the Nassau summit last October agreeing to mandatory sanctions if Pretoria did not make progress toward ending apartheid.

Mr Gandhi said if Britain goes against the Commonwealth decision, the onus would be on that country to pull out of the association.

Further Reportage on Visit of UK Labor Leader

Calls for Sanctions Against RSA

BK291625 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The British Labor opposition leader, Mr Neil Kinnock, said Commonwealth countries should pressurize Mrs Thatcher's government to give up its reluctance on imposing comprehensive economic sanctions against South Africa.

Addressing a news conference in New Delhi today at the end of his 5-day stay in the capital, he pointed out that 43 members of the Commonwealth demand sanctions against Pretoria, while only the British Government has reservations.

Mr Kinnock was answering a question about the possibility of India and some African countries quitting the Commonwealth on the sanctional issue. He ruled out any such prospect and said members should persuade the British Government to fall in line with them.

Mr Kinnock, who is visiting India at the invitation of the Congress-I, described his talks with Mr Rajiv Gandhi and other leaders as rewarding and informative.

Answering questions about anti-Indian extremist activity in Britain, he agreed that there should be greater appreciation in his country that there was a sense of outrage in India over the fact that some people advocating India's disintegration appeared to be at liberty in England.

All British parties must be committed to upholding the unity and integrity of India. He, however, maintained that the British Government is fairly pragmatic on this issue and is considering the proposal for a ministerial conference of the two countries in this connection.

About immigration, Mr Kinnock said his party is for changing the 1971 and 1981 immigration laws. He favored control of number of immigrants rather than determining their nature on the basis of parentage and grandparentage.

Agreement on Oil Technology Signed With USSR

BK291304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The Soviet minister for geology, Mr (Ravinin,) says his country has entered into an agreement with India to provide complete technical know-how for exploring, drilling and preparing wells for producing oil and gas in Cambay, Cauvery Basin and other places.

Talking to newsmen in Simla today he said Moscow will continue to provide technical expertise to India and other developing countries to help strengthen their economy.

Increases in Pakistan's Defense Budget Noted

BK300315 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] In Pakistan, the defense expenditure for 1986-87 has been raised by 10 percent over the previous year. This expenditure constitutes 38.5 percent of the current budget which is estimated at 15,211 crore rupees.

The overall increase for the current year's budget is of 2,288 crore rupees over the preceding year.

Delhi Requests Canada To Investigate Shooting

BK271419 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The provincial court in Canada has charged four men with attempted murder of the Punjab planning minister, Mr Malkiat Singh. Mr Singh was shot at and wounded on Sunday when he was on a private visit to Canada. The accused have been kept in police custody unitil Thursday.

According to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the condition of the Punjab minister is stable.

The Canadian Government has exp[illegible] its regret over the shooting of the Punjab planning min[illegible], Mr Malkiat Singh, while going in a car in Vancouver.

The Canadian foreign minister, Mr Joe Clark, phoned the Indian high commissioner, Mr Chatwal, and conveyed his government's regret at the incident.

The Indian consul general met Mr Malkiat Singh and has reported that the minister is out of danger.

The External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in New Delhi today that the government is in touch with the high commissioner. He has asked the Canadian authorities for a full investigation into the incident.

'Terrorists' Carrying Pakistani Weapons Arrested

BK271609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 May 86

[Text] The Border Security Force apprehended 10 terrorists in Gurdaspur and Amritsar districts yesterday. It also foiled a daring attempt by two terrorists to loot a businessman.

Some arms and ammunition with Pakistan ordinance factory markings were recovered from the two terrorists nabbed in Amritsar.

The Punjab police also arrested five terrorists in Faridkot and Ludhiana Districts today. While four of them were apprehended in Faridkot, one terrorist was caught in Ludhiana. Some arms and ammunition have also been recovered.

2 Pakistani Intruders Killed in Border Clash

BK291629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] The Punjab government has constituted an all party committee, which will visit terrorist-stricken villages in Amritsar District to restore confidence in the minority community. The state agriculture minister, Mr Harbachan Singh Sandoo, will be its convener.

Announcing this in Chandigarh today the chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, said the committee will meet the families who suffered at the hands of terrorists and see whether the arrangements made for their protection were adequate. Mr Barnala said a similar committee is also proposed to be constituted for Guardaspur District.

Addressing a meeting in Sangrur, Mr Barnala said that the Golden Temple complex has been cleared of terrorists and other anti-national elements whose activities were posing a threat to the unity and integrity of the country. Mr Barnala said he was compelled to order the police to enter the complex after the extremists declared the formation of the so-called Khalistan from its holy presence.

Meanwhile, four terrorists were arrested by the Amritsar police today, and some arms and ammunition recovered from them.

Two Pakistani intruders were killed while two others managed to escape in an encounter with the BSF [Border Security Force] on the Indo-Pakistan border last night.

Finance Minister Announces Annual Budget

BK300606 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 29 May 86

[Excerpts] A balanced development- and welfare-oriented federal budget for the next financial year was announced in the National Assembly this evening by the finance minister, Mian Mohammad Yasin Khan Watto.

The budget announced a number of concessions for workers and government servants and other segments of society. The taxations have been kept to the minimum and POL [petroleum, oil, lubricants] prices have been reduced besides providing a record amount of 4,700 crore rupees for the annual development program. Two hundred crore rupees have been provided as relief in the import duty to stimulate investment and to make smuggling less attractive.

The annual development program is 23 percent more than the development expenditure for the current year. This increase is twice as high as the nominal GDP growth rate.

Out of the total development expenditure, 3,372 crore rupees will be spent on the federal development programs, which will be 25 percent higher than that of the current year. The remaining amount will be spent on the provincial development programs. One hundred and seventy crore rupees out of the development allocation will be spent on the schemes earmarked by members of parliament.

While framing the budget, due consideration has been given to the needs and requirements of the underprivileged. Efforts have been made to evolve a framework which will foster the growth of agriculture and industry and rapid development of energy, communication and construction.

Due importance has also been given to literacy, education and training, public health and social welfare. Thirty crore rupees will be spent under the new scheme for the employees' old age pension. The minimum pension is being raised to 306 rupees, and maximum to 1,260 rupees per month.

Twelve crore rupees have been provided for special education for the deaf and blind, and assistance for voluntary organizations of social welfare; 58 crore rupees are being provided for population welfare; 4 crore rupees have been provided for special scheme for welfare of minorities.

Special measures will be taken during the coming year for employment generation: 50,000 new jobs for teachers will be created; 52,000 part-time jobs will be created under the mass literacy program. Ten thousand jobs for teachers will be created for schools set up on the recommendation of members of the National Assembly and Senate. Seven thousand jobs will be created under the health program.

The expansion in the health sector next year will create 7,000 jobs including 1,800 for doctors, 2,000 for paramedics and 2,300 for auxiliary staff.

As a matter of policy, labor-intensive technology will be encouraged. Professional and skilled persons will be provided concessional financing and facilities for setting up their own industries and business.

It is proposed to reduce the prices of POL items. The price of petrol has been reduced to 6 rupees 95 paisas a liter, of kerosene oil 3 rupees per liter, of high-speed diesel to 3 rupees 85 paisas a liter, of light diesel oil 2 rupees and 80 paisas per liter. The price of furnace oil is to be reduced to 1,650 rupees per ton.

The export compensatory rebate scheme has been withdrawn. However, letters of credit already opened for export contract already registered with the Export Promotion Bureau will not be affected by the withdrawal.

It is proposed to enhance the charge of local telephone calls to 70 paisas. It is also proposed to increase the price of an envelope to 80 paisas and of a postcard to 45 paisas. The rate of postal parcel is also being increased to 5 rupees per kilogram. Overseas postal rates are also proposed to be increased.

The expemption to the income of the National Development Finance Corporation and the Bankers Equity is being withdrawn. (?Jewelers) surcharge is being abolished.

Income of the provincial text books boards is being exempted from tax retrospectively from the date of their establishment.

Income of industrial undertakings owned by companies set up between 1 July this year and 30 June 1989 and engaged in specified engineering goods is being exempted for 5 years.

The overall size of the new budget at 152,119 million rupees is higher by 22,883 million rupees than the revised estimates of the outgoing year.

The National Assembly will now meet on Saturday [31 May] afternoon.

SRI LANKA

Explosion Rocks Colombo Factory; 10 Casualties

BK301010 Hong Kong AFP in English 1000 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] Colombo, May 30 (AFP) — An explosion rocked a Colombo factory at lunchtime Friday, leaving at least 10 people dead or seriously injured, an eyewitness said. "I don't know how many died, but I saw at least ten persons who seemed to be dead" or very seriously injured being carried to vehicles and sent to hospital, the eyewitness, a press photographer, said.

The cause of the blast, which occurred near the army headquarters in the Slave Island area of the capital, was not immediately clear. However, police here said Thursday that one militant Tamil terrorist group had planned to bomb several key places in Colombo.

Friday's explosion apparently originated in a lorry returning empty bottles to the factory, a soft drinks and meat products manufacturing plant, the photographer said. "I saw three vehicles completely destroyed. One was still on fire. Pieces of broken bottles were lying all over," he added.

Military sources confirmed that the blast, which occurred at 1:20 p.m. (0750 GMT), was not located at the army headquarters, but said it had shaken buildings in the area and brought plaster crumbling down from the roofs.

Further Reportage on Mediation Talks With Tamils

India Suspends Efforts

BK300909 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] India's efforts to help resolve the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka have been suspended for the time being. Speaking to newsmen in Colombo, the India high commissioner in Sri Lanka, Mr J.N. Dixit, said any progress will depend on Colombo's willingness to fill what he called crucial gaps in its latest formulations on the issue.

Mr Dixit is due to leave for New Delhi tomorrow to attend the meeting of heads of Indian missions in Asia and West Asia.

The main difference or crucial gaps between the proposals by India and Sri Lanka on ways to solve the ethnic problem lie in the core areas of law and order and land settlement.

Mr Dixit who is scheduled to meet the Sri Lankan national security minister, Mr Lalith Athulathmudali, today said any forward movement is possible only if today's discussions are responsive to the considerations and concerns mentioned by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the external affairs minister, Mr Shiv Shanker, early this month.

In Tamil Nadu, a 12-hour statewide bundh [strike] will be observed tomorrow from 0600 in the morning in protest against the killings of Tamils in Sri Lanka. Air, bus, and train services, including suburban services will remain suspended. Essential services like electricity, hospitals, and newspapers will, however, be maintained. The decision for the bundh was taken at a meeting of political parties in Madras yesterday presided over by the chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran. The meeting condemned the military action against the Tamils in Sri Lanka.

The Dravida Munnetra Kazagham [DMK] and its alliance partners boycotted the meeting. They have already issued a statewide bundh call for tomorrow. A similar 12-hour bundh is being observed in Pondicherry from 0600 tomorrow.

The decision to observe the bundh was taken at an all party meeting convened by the chief minister. Essential services have been exempted from the bundh. The DMK has already given a separate bundh call for tomorrow.

Largest Tamil Group Rejects Offer

NC292144 Paris AFP in English 2142 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] New Delhi, May 29 (AFP) — The top Tamil militant group Thursday rejected Sri Lanka's offer of informal discussions mediated by the Commonwealth to settle the island nation's ethnic separatist crisis, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) news agency reported.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the largest of the 21 Tamil militant groups fighting for autonomy in Sri Lanka, said in Madras that it would not participate in talks to which India was not a party, PTI said.

The LTTE's reaction to Tuesday's offer by Sri Lanka echoed three other militant groups, which rejected the offer Wednesday on similar grounds. The LTTE called the Commonwealth the "least acceptable" mediator, charging it with aiding the Sri Lankan Government in the "genocide" of the island's Tamil minority population, PTI said.

Tuesday's offer was made by Sri Lanka's National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali, who proposed "informal discussions" structured on the lines of the Geneva proximity talks between Pakistan and Afghanistan, with the Commonwealth playing the mediator.

Khomeyni, Others Attend Fast-Breaking in Jamaran

LD292146 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Leader of revolution and founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran Imam Khomeyni attended a reciption given by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni in Jamaran for breaking the fast. Also attending the reception were President Khamene'i, Majlis speaker Hasemi-Rafsanjani, President of the Supreme Court Musavi-Ardabili, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and a number of officials, civilian and military dignitaries, clergy and some inhabitants of Jamaran. The reception started by a congregational prayer led by Imam Khomeyni. Following the evening prayer, which was held in a spiritual atmosphere, the imam of the ummah took part in breaking his fast along with other guests.

Khamene'i Delivers Friday Prayer Sermons

LD301209 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 May 86

[Text] On the Third Friday in the blessed month of Ramadan and on the eve of the martyrdom of the Peer of the Pious, the Prince of the Faithful, the Holy 'Ali ibn Abi Talib — may peace be upon him! — our fasting, Muslim compatriots observed the politico-religious Friday prayers ceremonies throughout the country today. Tehran's citizens, too, observed the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i today.

In his Friday prayers sermons today Tehran's Friday imam referred to the vast country-wide demonstrations by the nation's segments on Jerusalem Day last year as exemplifying the astounding power of the people and said: The reason for the greatness of Jerusalem Day lies in the issue of the monolithic presence of fasting people in the streets — despite the bombings of cities and population centers by aircraft of the Zionist enemy — a fact which affected the hostile policies adopted by world arrogance against us throughout the world, since the people's presence not only constitutes backing for the revolution and the Islamic Republic but also acts towards breaking the backs of the foes of Islam!

In connection with the people's resistance during the imposed war the chairman of the Supreme Defense Council said: The only path left for U.S. policy and U.S. policies [as heard] vis-a-vis the imposed war is to continue the war in this selfsame manner without having a winner. However, our own policy is diametrically opposed to the policy of the United States and the backers of Saddam in the region. If the policy of the United States and Saddam's backers is to prolong the course of the war, our policy is one of finishing the war in one go — of toppling soon as possible the Iraqi regime with the help of our nation's might and thereby bring salvation to the two nations of Iran and Iraq!

Today is the day of our historic experience: We should utilize the nation's strata's monolithic desire to be present on the fronts as a powerful blow at our enemies and we should let our people display their power and thereby realize the miracle which should take place; and the people's active presence on the fronts is our last word which would end the business! Through reliance on the people we shall terminate aggression and we will carry out this task and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, too, has declared its readiness to train and mobilize the enormous forces volunteering for dispatch to the fronts!

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, referring to the fact that this year International Jerusalem Day has been proclaimed as the beginning of Jerusalem Week, then called on the nation's strate, this year too, by their monolithic presence on the arena, to renew the memory of last year's Jerusalem Day and by their vast departure for the battlefronts on Jerusalem Day and Jerusalem Week to deliver yet another blow at the body of Islam's enemies!

Further Reportage on Visit of SWAPO's Nujoma

Meets Prime Minister

LD291745 Tehran IRNA in English 1220 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Visiting leader of the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) Sam Nujoma Thursday sharply criticised colonialist policies of the U.S. and Europe in the African continent. In a meeting with Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi he said the U.S. supports puppet governments such as South African regime who have negated the continent's independence and its right to determine its own fate. "This is the latest U.S. method against the oppressed people in that continent," he added.

Nujoma also described the United Nations as an organization influenced by the policies of exploiters. "The U.N. has not been able to accomplish its task vis-a-vis the oppressed nations," he said. "Namibians has come to the conclusion that the more masses are mobilized, the nearer victory will be". The SWAPO leader called for closer relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In response Premier Musavi said the Islamic revolution belongs to all oppressed peoples throughout the world and that it backs liberation movements and oppressed nations as a matter of foreign policy.

The prime minister warmly welcomed SWAPO's interest to establish diplomatic relations with the Islamic republic. Musavi assured Nujoma that once authenticity is given to people in the struggle, victory will be attained.

IRGC Official Returns From Libya Trip 29 May

GF290714 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Mr Rahmani, the head of the mobilization of the oppressed unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], who had gone to Tripoli at the invitation of Libyan officials, returned to Tehran this morning. Following his arrival he gave an interview to our correspondent and described the goals and results of his trip. We invite you to listen to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr Rahmani, would you please tell us the purpose of your trip to Libya and also the results of your meetings with various officials in that country?
[Rahmani] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Following an invitation we received from Libya, we undertook the journey. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the brother gentlemen from Libya for the extraordinary and important welcome that they granted us.

As you know, following the aggression by the criminal United States on our brother and friendly country Libya, it was necessary that the mobilization unit of the IRGC announce its presence there to show its all-round support for the brother nation of Libya. In addition to the announcement of support, it also was necessary to exchange experiences and thus this visit was undertaken to discuss their experiences in achieving a popular army and armed masses and also to discuss the extraordinary experiences that the mobilization unit has achieved in the Islamic Republic of Iran. In this connection we held several high-level and important meetings which had useful and fruitful results.

The brothers who accompanied us on this trip were present during the several meetings held to exchange experiences. We took several decisions on future expansion of the mobilization forces in the Islamic Republic of Iran and a more active role for our brother Libyans with regard to programs to expand their own popular armed forces. We hope they will continue this and, God willing, the Iranian mobilization unit will consider this as a vanguard in the achievement of the 100-million-army which is what the great leader of the revolution has in mind.

During this trip we saw the sites which were directly attacked by the world-terrorist, the criminal United States. We visited these areas which clearly showed America's dastardly actions. During our meetings we took several decisions on the quality and methods of defense and the organization of popular forces in the future.

In the Islamic Republic of Iran the presence of the popular mobilization unit has in reality robbed the criminal United States of a peaceful sleep. The powerful presence of the mobilization unit has not allowed them to carry our their plans. The imposed war has been a priority for the mobilization unit and with its continued presence it is on the way to a complete victory.

[Correspondent] Mr Rahmani, with regard to the experience gained by the Iranian mobilization unit during the past few years, especially in the imposed war, is it possible for a similar mobilization force to be created in Libya?
[Rahmani] Our Libyan brothers have taken some steps in the formation of a mobilization unit and, with regard to the belief that dictates the need for all men and women there to get military training and to get armed, there have been some steps taken.

Of course in the fields of organization and the quality of utilization of these forces they need some assistance in this area which we hope we will be able to grant to our dear brothers in Libya in the future, God willing, through further bilateral meetings and trips. [end recording]

Envoy, Qatar Minister Discuss Region, Relations

GF291838 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Seyyed Sakha'i, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Qatar, conferred today with Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, the Qatari minister of state for foreign affairs.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed bilateral relations and the situation in the region. They also stressed the need to develop and cement bilateral relations.

Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili Visits Mashhad

GF290950 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 May 86

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Mashhad on Chief Justice Musavi-Ardabili's visit to that city]

[Excerpts] [Begin recording] Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili, the chief justice, arrived in Mashhad last night on a pilgrimage to the holy mosque of Imam Reza — peace be unto him and his family — and to meet with judicial officials of Khorasan Province.

Soon after his arrival he appeared at a glorious gathering of the Hezbollah people of Mashhad.

He gave a speech and commented on the awareness-seeking movement of our country's Islamic ummah and their growth and self-reliance in the shelter of the human-rearing Islamic philosophy. He said: There was a time when our people were considered as nothing by the world, and the world looted all our resources. But today our country and our people rely on Islam and are standing on their own feet. Today, our young people are under chemical bombardment and stand firm in the face of the enemy's fiery weapons, baring their chests, and sacrificing their lives but they will not be controlled by anyone under this sun. Our people have achieved this dignity under Islam.

The chief justice talked about the 6 years of resistance by the heroic people of Iran in the battlefronts against the Saddamist aggressors and world arrogance. He said: For 6 years now the world has been waiting for our people to become tired and give up its holy resistance and defense. But these people, with their sacrifices, proved in all fields that until there is one of us left alive, there is no fatigue and there is struggle.

He added: Today, the supporters of Saddam have given up on him and they have understood that this symbol of corruption is not going to last. If they could be sure that after Saddam goes, Islamic Iran would lie still and the flag of the Islamic Republic would not be raised over Iraq, they would send Saddam and dozens more like him handcuffed to the slaughterhouse. But today, to keep their own puppet mercenaries in power in the region's Islamic countries, they continue to support Saddam hopelessly.

The Central News Unit — Mashhad [end recording]

Iraq Claims Military Commander, Agent Executed
LD251031 Tehran IRNA in English 1021 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 25, IRNA — The Iraqi regime has executed a military commander and a secret service agent on charges of disobedience. According to reliable sources from Iraq the Iraqi commander, Sheykh Latif Barzanji, who had refused to attack the Iraqi Muslim revolutionary Kurds in Shaykh Shemiran north of Iraqi Kurdestan was executed near the Iraqi city of Sayyid Sadiq. Meanwhile a secret service agent was also executed on charges of disobedience. The agent, Muhammad Rashid Salih had previously received several honorary medals from the Iraqi ruler. He was executed in Kirkuk some six weeks ago after he too refused to attack the Shakh Shemiran area in northern Iraq's Kurdestan Province, the sources added.

YAR Brigade Reportedly Supporting Iraqi Forces
LD251756 Tehran IRNA in English 1743 GMT 25 May 86

[Text] Ilam, Ilam Prov., May 25, IRNA — Iraqi ruler Saddam has deployed a Yemen Arab Republic infantry brigade for support of his forces in Khaneqin region, according to an Iraqi sergeant captured in Mehran region last week. The Iraqi sergeant, who requested anonymity, said that each Yemeni soldier is paid 400 Iraqi dinars per month. "I have believed in the Islamic Republic of Iran since the beginning of the war," said the POW, "and I am especially interested in Imam Khomeyni since he previously had resided in Najaf," he added.

During Iran's Val Fajr-9 offensive, commander of Iraqi Brigade 504 together with 100 other officers and soldiers were executed on Saddam's order because they had retreated without being told to do so, the POW said. "If Iraqi soldiers want to stay alive, they must surrender to Iranian combatants," said the POW.

Iraqi Regime Reportedly Bombs 5 Kurdish Villages
LD280823 Tehran IRNA in English 0731 GMT 28 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 28, IRNA — The Iraqi Ba'thist regime in continuation of its efforts to crush the movement of the Iraqi Muslim Kurds recently bombed five villages around the Qareh-Dagh heights, Sulaymaniyah Province, in which ten villagers were martyred and score of others were injured. Most of the victims of the Iraqi bombardment of the Kurdish populated area were children and women.

Meanwhile the Kurdish Muslim Peshmerga fighting the Iraqi Ba'thist regime mined Badelyan-Dashte Diana Road, in northern Iraq, killing a number of Iraqi forces, informed sources said Wednesday. In this operation a military vehicle was destroyed and all its passengers were killed.

Furthermore, the Iraqi Muslim Kurds destroyed another army vehicle killing six and injuring three of its passengers.

In a separate recent operation the Iraqi Kurds killed an Iraqi commander, the report added.

Ground Forces Chief Calls Iraqi Attacks 'Futile'
LD291315 Tehran IRNA in English 1233 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Commander of ground forces, Colonel Seyyed Shirazi said Thursday Iraq's recent limited and scattered counterattacks are aimed at revitalizing the morale of its forces, but "We had crushed them in the past and we will do so in the future." He said Iran's Muslim combatants are "armed with the belief in God and will resist the modern weapons of arrogant powers and will make them desperate." In the past month Iraq has launched counterattacks in Faqqeh and Hajj 'Umran regions of the 1,200 km war front but has failed to make any progress.

The ground forces commander was speaking at the graduation ceremony of soldiers from the 25th course of the ground forces 06 training center. In the ceremony units from the center paraded and individual and group combat war-games were performed.

Colonal Shirazi said commitment should be strengthened in an army which is reorganizing according to the values of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. The ground forces commander noted the importance of unity in the armed forces and thwarting the conspiracies of the adversaries of the Islamic Republic. "We proved to the satanic forces that we will continue our glorious battle with implementation of Allah's instructions" he said.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Iraq Bombards West Azerbayjan Province
LD291611 Tehran IRNA in English 1540 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 29, IRNA — Iraqi long-range artillery fire continually hit the city of Piranshahr and its surrounding villages in West Azarbayjan province Wednesday damaging houses and cars, said a military communique here Thursday. The communique said exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the 1,200 km front over the past 24 hours raging somewhat more intensely in Mehran, Sumar and Majnun Islands.

Iraqi forces trying to transport troops and equipment by helicopters in Darband Region on Wednesday night were shelled and sustained losses including destruction of three vehicles and parts oftheir positions, it said.

In Bakhtaran and Ilam border fronts, the communique said, Muslim forces of Iran opened heavy artillery fire on Iraqi positions inflicting casualties and damage. In the same area Iranian patrol units also reconnoitered transport and defensive operations of Iraqi forces and dealt blows on them.

The communique said Iraqi patrol units attempting to infiltrate Iranian positions in Sumar and Shur Shirin, western fronts, were pounded and forced to flee after sustaining casualties. Reconnaissance flights of Iraqi helicopters and movements of enemy motorized columns in Mehran were checked by Iranian Muslim combatants.

In the southern fronts, the communique said, an Iraqi mine field in Nahre-Anbar was hit and destroyed by Iranian artillery fire.

It added that Iranian artillery fire also pounded an Iraqi patrol unit which tried to penetrate positions there. Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was the target of sporadic Iraqi artillery fire Wednesday.

Free Voice of Iran: Revolution Guards, Public Clash

GF291630 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 29 May 86

[Text] Armed fighters have succeeded in occupying a part of Kumeleh town after an armed clash with Revolution Guards there in which a large number of Revolution Guards were reported killed. According to the same reports, Huseyni, chairman of the information office of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Kumeleh, was reported killed during street fights with the armed fighters.

KEYHAN: New Anti-Khomeyni Organization Established

GF281253 London KEYHAN in Persian 22 May 86 p 2

[Text] A new organization opposing the present Iranian regime has announced its existence. This organization which calls itself the "Organization of the Followers of Ayatollah Kho'i" [Ayatollah Kho'i, over 90 years old, lives in Najf and is one of the highest sources of emulation for the Shi'ite sect], takes its inspiration from the "highest sources of emulation of world Shi'ites" and consists of "scholars, clerics, teachers, and students of theology."

The constitution of the organization states that the Iranian Army, Gendarmerie, police, women, guilds, merchants, government servants, farmers, cultural elements, and tribesmen support this organization, so that in one coordinated operation, the means to deliver the country from the "domination of the Velayat-e Faqih" could be provided. The organization claims that it has ample funds and arms at its disposal.

The organization believes that the current regime in Iran is "anti-divinity" and continues to rule the country by "distorting the meanings and objectives of the traditions of the holy prophet." The Khomeyni regime has been accused of usurping and robbing the people of their property. It has ruined the manpower and economy of the country by continuing the war.

Mr "Mahmud", one of the representatives of this organization in Europe, during his contacts with *KEYHAN*, said: This organization was founded in Iran a year and a half ago and has supporters among all levels of the people, including the Majlis, the government, and the Armed Forces.

The manifest of the organization states that in order to return the country to democracy and national sovereignty there should be free elections and that a constituent assembly should be established.

Mr "Mahmud" said: Ayatollah Kho'i is against constant interference by religion in the affairs of government. His followers hold the same view. The principle of Velayat-e Faqih is against Islamic values. Religion should interfere in politics only when oppressors come to political power and endanger Islam. No one can force the minorities to abandon their religious practices. Similarly, women should be free to choose their own dress. They should not be forced to wear what they do not like.

Mr "Mahmud" added: Ayatollah 'Isa Shabbir Khaqani, who has recently addressed the European press on the need to campaign against the Velayat-e Faqih, is a staunch follower of Ayatollah Kho'i.

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